

## Magistrate assassinated south of Algiers

ALGIERS (AFP) — Another Algerian magistrate has been killed, this time in the town of Bousaada, southeast of Algiers, the magistrates' national union announced Wednesday. The organisation did not provide any details on the circumstances surrounding Seikh Bouhalfi's killing on June 12. He was the 19th magistrate killed in Algeria in two years in attacks attributed to suspected Islamic extremists. Bousaada lies 250 kilometres southeast of the capital. Since April five lawyers have also been killed in the country including Youssef Farhatullah, the president of the Algerian Human Rights League who was assassinated in his office last Saturday. Islamic extremists have waged a terrorist campaign here since January 1992 when the army intervened to cancel the second round of a general election the now banned Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) was poised to win.

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## King, U.S. president share hope for comprehensive peace

### Clinton: U.S. looking at Jordan's security and economic needs

WASHINGTON (J.T.) —

His Majesty King Hussein and U.S. President Bill Clinton Wednesday held two hours of talks at the White House that centred on bilateral relations, progress in the Middle East peace process in general and along the Jordanian-Israeli track in particular as well as other regional issues, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

During a brief encounter with journalists at the White House the King said he shared with President Clinton the "hope that we will have a comprehensive peace in the entire region."

Asked whether Jordan is seeking a separate peace with Israel, the King said that Jordan was "seeking the beginning of serious negotiations on the agenda that was ratified here in Washington (on Sept. 14, 1993) as rapidly as possible."

President Clinton pledged support for Jordan and said that his country would be looking at Jordan's security and economic needs.

Mr. Clinton urged the Jordanian people to lend support to King Hussein's effort to negotiate peace with Israel because the King is "clearly... working to protect the long-term interests of the people of

Jordan."

The president reaffirmed the support of the United States for a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East, including the Syrian track."

He said the U.S. "will do whatever (it) can to keep the negotiations going."

"This remains a very important priority for me and for our administration, and I am very encouraged by where we are now in the whole process, and especially by the efforts that King Hussein has made."

"The United States will support the cause of peace not just in the aftermath of the peace agreement, but on the long run. We believe that our efforts are very much bound with the success of Jordan and Israel and Syria and Lebanon and all the other parties in the Middle East. We think this is a very important part of our future," the president said.

Commenting on remarks by a number of congressmen that the Arab boycott of Israel adversely affected Jordanian-American relations, King Hussein said that an end to the boycott depended on the outcome of the peace process and the Israeli ban on Jordanian products entering the Palestinian areas.

He said Israel should re-

examine its own economic system which is largely based on protectionism and subsidising exports because these measures prevent any open trade between the Arabs and the Israelis.

In reply to questions about Islamic fundamentalism the King said that extremism can be seen in other religions too but Islam is a religion of moderation and the West should not judge our religion from the perspective of extremism.

The King expressed pride in being a Muslim himself.

Referring to relations with the Palestinians, the King said Jordan was providing assistance to them to enable them to run their own affairs.

Following the meeting Information Minister Jawad Anani said it was held in a very cordial atmosphere reflecting the positive trend in the development of Jordanian-American relations.

The King is accompanied by a delegation that includes Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali, Chief of the Royal Court Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, the King's military secretary, His Royal Highness Prince Talal Ben Mohammad and Jordan's ambassador to the United States Dr. Fayed

Tarawneh. During the meeting with President Clinton, Vice President Albert Gore, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Robert Pellegrino, National Security Advisor Martin Indyk and Middle East coordinator Denis Ross from the American side attended.

King Hussein stressed that Jordan sought peace based on the common agenda reached with Israel and the recent agreement on sub-agendas on the demarcation of the common border and the settlement of issues related to security and water rights.

The congressmen enquired about the proposed confederation between Jordan and Palestine and the King said that this was not being considered at the moment.

Once the Palestinians have regained their rights on their national soil they can decide for themselves their future relations with Jordan, the King said.

Referring to the democratic process in Jordan the King said that it was needed to safeguard man's dignity and basic requirements adding that democracy should prevail in all parts of the Middle East region.



His Majesty King Hussein visits with President Bill Clinton at the White House Wednesday (AFP photo)

Noor were guests of honour at a lunch hosted by the U.S. president and first lady Hillary Clinton at the White House.

Earlier the King met with Thomas Foley, speaker of the House of Representatives, Lee Hamilton, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee at the

sing positively in the wake of the Gulf crisis.

Petra quoted the congressmen as saying that they understand the problems facing Jordan and that lent support for Jordan in view of its positive stand with regard to the Middle East peace process and its drive for democratisation.

## Koreans meet next week to discuss summit agenda

SEOUL, South Korea (Agencies) — In a step towards defusing nuclear tensions, North Korea on Wednesday accepted a South Korean proposal to meet next week to prepare for their first summit.

North Korea said it would send officials to the border village of Panmunjom for the talks Tuesday, but South Korean officials expressed skepticism. Past summit proposals have failed to materialise.

South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-Joo said the summit, if held, would focus on suspicions that the north is developing nuclear weapons.

North Korea has refused to accept full inspections of its nuclear facilities as required by the nuclear non-proliferation treaty. The secretive, hard-line state says its nuclear programme is for peaceful purposes.

In a telephone message Wednesday, North Korea agreed to send a three-member delegation to Panmunjom, said officials from the Unification Board, which deals with inter-Korean issues.

Last week, North Korean President Kim Il Sung told former U.S. President Carter, on a visit to both Koreas to try to reduce tensions, that he was willing to meet South Korean President Kim Young-Sam.

South Korea suggested Monday that officials from the two countries meet to prepare for a summit.

Mr. Han called Wednesday's message from North Korea "encouraging" because for the first time it did not make a counter-offer with a different place or date for a meeting.

Presidents of the two Koreas have not met since the division of their peninsula in 1945. Lower-level talks have been held on and off since the 1970s to little avail.

The north and south are still technically at war since no peace treaty was signed at the end of the three-year Korean war in 1953.

According to news reports, North Korea has said it hopes to hold the summit in its capital Aug. 15, which both Koreas celebrate as the

anniversary of liberation in 1945 from 35 years of Japanese domination.

But the date may be difficult for South Korea to accept because the north also plans to hold a rally which Seoul officials say is anti-South Korean.

A poll published Wednesday said 76 per cent of South Koreans believe North Korea is proposing summit talks to avoid international sanctions designed to force it to allow nuclear inspections. But those questioned nevertheless believe a summit could help ease tensions.

Mr. Han, the foreign minister, warned that moves for sanctions would continue if North Korea does not make good on its offers.

China, North Korea's mainly largest trading partner, opposes sanctions and could block them as a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council.

On Wednesday, China said it admired the willingness of North and South Korea to hold a summit.

"We hope that this meeting will be held soon and can gain positive results," said a foreign ministry spokesman, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Meanwhile, a Japanese travel agency said Wednesday that North Korea has decided to lift a ban on issuing visas to Japanese tourists.

North Korea stopped issuing the visas a year ago in response to mounting tension over nuclear inspections at that time," he added.

"If we get the kind of confirmation that I've outlined ... and if we go to a third round (of high-level U.S.-North Korean talks), it's clear that sanctions would have to be held in abeyance at that time," he added.

President Kang Ok Joo of Chegai Travel Co. in Tokyo said a state-run tourist corporation in Pyongyang, the North Korean capital, notified him of the decision in mid-May.

Also Wednesday, South Korea's largest militant student group, ignoring a government warning, said it would send a representative to North Korea in a few days to promote unification.

Police said any student leaders involved would be punished. The government launched a severe crackdown in 1989 after a student delegate went to North Korea.

South Koreans cannot visit North Korea without government approval, which is rarely given.

Unification Minister Lee Hong-Koo, who is widely expected to become the chief southern delegate to the preparatory talks, told reporters on Monday the meeting would decide a venue and date for the summit without setting an agenda.

"We will be very flexible on the issue of agenda for the summit to put the preparatory talks on a fast track," a ministry official said on Wednesday.

The United States, Seoul and their allies have threatened North Korea with sanctions for obstructing inspections of its nuclear plants. North Korea has responded by saying sanctions would mean war.

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said Tuesday Washington would suspend its push for sanctions and resume high-level talks with North Korea if Pyongyang confirms its willingness to freeze its nuclear program.

U.S. sanctions campaign "should not be an obstacle" to taking advantage of an opening in the nuclear crisis that may have been created by Mr. Carter's trip to North Korea last week, he said.

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## Arafat delays return till mid-July

JERICHO, West Bank (Agencies) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chief Yasser Arafat, originally expected here by the end of June will not be coming before the middle of next month, a senior Palestinian official said Wednesday.

Colonel Jibril Rajab, head of preventive security in the new Palestinian self-rule enclave of Jericho, said "Arafat is not expected before mid-July."

"International donors are late in sending us the aid to start building our infrastructure," Col. Rajab told AFP, citing the major reason for the delay.

International donors have pledged to pay immediately \$42 million to help start up Palestinian autonomy. The sum was to be followed by \$90 million, part of a total of \$720 million for the rest of the year.

Col. Rajab also said political factors such as the Palestinian prisoners and Israeli security arrangements at checkpoints contributed to the delay.

Israeli soldiers on Monday stopped chief Palestinian negotiator Nabil Shaath at checkpoints twice during a visit to Jericho. He was only let through one of them after

the intervention of Israeli deputy chief of staff Amnon Shahak.

"After my visit to Jericho and what I have seen there of Israeli violations, there is a chance that Arafat will delay his arrival," Dr. Shahak told Al Quds newspaper.

"I would not want him to see what I have seen of military barriers and of obstacles to tourism. We must first solve these problems."

Palestinians complain that Israel is violating the autonomy agreement by keeping tourist buses out of Jericho, which has a wealth of historic ruins and monasteries. They also say Israeli soldiers hold them up for hours at checkpoints around Jericho.

"We have not had any

bus in here for two weeks now," said Lieutenant Ibrahim Jadallah, chief of the tourism sector here.

"We are staying here," said Ramzy Khoury, director of the PLO chairman's office in Tunis, who arrived last month.

"We are preparing the buildings for the government, and more than 40 were wounded in fighting around Aden on Wednesday as rival Yemeni leaders refused to budge on their demands for a settlement.

Israel Radio reported that Israeli security services are putting the final touches to a massive operation codenamed "Garden City" for Mr. Arafat's visit.

The security plan concentrates on maintaining order around the self-rule enclave of Jericho where Jewish right-wingers and settlers have announced protests.

Israel will be prevented from entering Jericho during the visit and roads through the surrounding Jordan Valley and the northern sector of the Dead Sea will be closed.

Some 250,000 Palestinians are expected to flock to Jericho, which has a population of only 15,000, according to PLO officials. The radio said Israeli forces would filter their entry to the oasis town.

Mr. Arafat's personal security will be maintained by his own bodyguards, some of whom have reportedly already arrived, and the new Palestinian police.

Meanwhile, preparations continued regardless, in Jericho for Mr. Arafat's arrival. The delay is likely to

give workers more time to clean up the town.

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## Rabbani's jets bomb Hekmatyar's airbase

KABUL (Agencies) — Jets of forces loyal to Afghan President Burhanuddin Rabbani bombed the main airbase of Prime Minister Gul-Buddin Hekmatyar on Wednesday, damaging the runway, a presidential spokesman said.

Two jets of Mr. Rabbani's forces dropped their bombs on the airport, just south of Hekmatyar's headquarters at Charsayab, 25 km southeast of Kabul, shortly after dawn, said a spokesman for Mr. Rabbani's garrison forces.

The bombs damaged the gravel runway of the airport, he said.

The raid was necessary because Hekmatyar's main ally, northern warlord and ex-communist General Abdul Rashid Dostum, was using the airport to resupply his troops from his stronghold in the northern city of Mazar-i-Sharif, he said.

One jet also bombed a suburb in the southeast of the war-tattered capital near the ruined Chihilshir palace which is held by Hekmatyar's forces.

No details of casualties were available because heavy fighting near the city centre had blocked routes to the main hospital, doctors said. Artillery battles erupted at dawn near the Darulaman Palace, former home of the

kings of Afghanistan, as fighting between Hekmatyar's and guerrillas of the Shiite Muslim group Harakat-i-Islami entered its seventh day, witnesses said.

Hospitals reported six injured from the exchanges of heavy machine-guns fire rockets, mortar bombs and shells.

The fighting raged for more than six hours in the morning after a brief lull on Tuesday when the two sides held peace talks.

The clashes began last week after Harakat accused Hezbollah fighters of stealing one of their vehicles. Harakat is demanding the return of the jeep.

Harakat-i-Islami supports Rabbani, who has been under siege in Kabul by Mr. Hekmatyar since new year's day. More than 1,500 people have been killed and thousands injured in the fighting.

The fighting has intensified as Rabbani has refused to step down at the end of his term on June 23.

More than 11,500 people have been killed and much of the city reduced to ruins in bloody factional fighting in Kabul since the Mujahideen guerrilla groups seized power from the former Soviet-backed government in April, 1992.

More than one-third of Kabul's 1.5 million residents have fled since the guerrillas formed their Islamic coalition government.

### 50 civilians injured

More than 50 civilians were wounded in fresh clashes in south Kabul, hospital staff said Wednesday.

In the past 24 hours 51 civilians were admitted to Kabul's Karte Se Hospital after clashes between the two leaders' sides.

Afghan hospital staff said they expected the casualty toll to rise much higher.

The "preliminary peace talks" collapsed Wednesday, said sources in the Shiite faction who were to have hosted the negotiations. Special mediator Jalil Shams reportedly left Kabul after two failed attempts to bring the rival delegations together.

The talks were aimed at seeking a political settlement to end the fighting before the 18 month tenures of Rabbani and Hekmatyar expire June 28.

Rabbani's Jamiat-i-Islami faction has rejected any talks with Dostam, a former communist and one-time ally who tried to overthrow the president in an unsuccessful coup attempt in January.

## Amnesty: Human rights in Turkey 'graver by the day'

LONDON (AFP) — Human rights violations in Turkey get "graver by the hour," notably in the Kurdish-dominated south-east of the country, Amnesty International said Wednesday.

Painting an apocalyptic picture of violence and intimidation in Turkey, the London-based human rights group urged the sending of an expert mission to investigate the crackdown on freedom of expression and systematic practice of torture."

The group said the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe should send a mission to Turkey.

"The situation gets graver by the hour. Every week more people are thrown behind bars accused of pro-Kurdish separatist propaganda"; death-squad-style killings are reported almost daily; and there has been an alarming increase in disappearances," Amnesty said.

"Unless decisive action is taken now the practice of disappearance, like that of extrajudicial executions and torture, will become established in Turkey as routine tool of intimidation and elimination," the rights group said.

Since the start of the year, at least 24 opposition figures had disappeared without trace and the bodies of many more had been found after their kidnapping, it added.

The situation is particularly alarming in Turkish Kurdistan where 871 villages have been forcibly depopulated and homes torched by government forces, the group said.

Since March, more than 8,000 people have been forced to take refuge in neighbouring Iraqi Kurdistan.

Amnesty's Turkey report also condemned rights violations by the separatists of the European Union.

Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) including the murder of civilians, journalists and local politicians.

However, Amnesty said the government "must not use the conflict in the south-east to justify security force violation against its own citizens."

In Ankara Tuesday, two Kurdish deputies from the pro-Kurdish Democratic Party (DEP), who had taken refuge from arrest in the Turkish parliament, left the building and returned to their homes.

Ankara prosecutor general Nuret Demiral ordered their arrest Monday after Turkey's constitutional court dissolved the DEP for "separatist activities" and announced it was ending the mandate of its 13 deputies.

Of the DEP's 13 deputies, five are already under arrest on "separatism" charges, after their parliamentary immunity was lifted in March. The six others are currently in Bursa and said Monday: "If necessary, we could ask for political asylum but at the current stage we do not envisage it."

On Wednesday, two of the party's lawyers were expected in Paris to meet the other members of an international commission set up to defend the imprisoned Kurdish deputies, one of the lawyers, Feridan Yazar said in Ankara.

The commission of lawyers, trade unionists and politicians from six countries also includes former French foreign minister Roland Dumas as a member.

The group is expected to present a petition to the Human Rights Commission calling for Turkey to be prosecuted for rights violations and suspended from the Council of Europe.

## 6 tourists, 4 Turk injured in two bomb blasts

ANKARA (R) — Six tourists and four Turks were hurt when two bombs exploded in a tea garden in the Turkish Mediterranean resort of Fethiye, officials said on Wednesday.

Hospital staff said none of the injuries were serious.

"Most of them have left. Two had surgery but they are fine now — most just had short scatters in their hands and feet," a hospital official said.

He did not know who was responsible for planting them.

A British embassy official in Ankara said three Britons were hurt in the blast as well as two Germans and an Austrian.

There have been more than 10 bomb attacks on

crowded tourist areas and municipal buildings in Turkey in the last few months. In an attack in April, two tourists were killed and at least 15 injured in a bomb blast in Istanbul's crowded covered bazaar.

Some attacks have been blamed on the outlawed Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK), fighting for an independent state in the southeast. The PKK brought guerrilla fight to the west last year when it targeted resorts and southern coasts. It has vowed to do so again this year.

## 'Despite media rhetoric, Syria eager for peace'

By Kate Dowrian

Reuter

DAMASCUS — Syria's state media has been repeating the same refrain for months — no peace with Israel until all occupied lands are restored to the Arabs, even if it takes years.

But diplomats say their reading from Syrian officials is that Syria is keen to achieve progress in the U.S.-sponsored talks with Israel.

"Forget about the editorials. Syria is eager for peace even if you hear the newspapers talking about Syria willing to wait months or even years," said one diplomat.

The Syrian media and officials, while upholding the virtue of coordinated Arab action towards the goal of comprehensive regional peace accord, have not attacked Jordan directly for resuming contact with Israel.

The diplomats say Damascus is peeved that Amman stole its thunder and they expect it to take the initiative and step back into the limelight.

There has been no progress in the Syrian-Israeli talks since they were launched at the Madrid peace conference of 1992 with Washington and Moscow as sponsors.

Syria has blamed what the media calls "Israeli obstinacy" for a decision by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher to delay a trip to the region.

The diplomats caution against reading too much into editorials which suggest a hardening of Syria's stance.

"We are with international legitimacy. We cannot offer more than that," Joubar Kourieh said.

But diplomats say there

is a hint of urgency in the political mood, particularly since Jordan accelerated talks with Israel.

"Syria certainly does not want to be left behind. It's just that it would prefer the other Arab countries to move at its pace rather than the other way round," one diplomat said.

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reading from Syrian officials is that Syria is keen to achieve progress in the U.S.-sponsored talks with Israel.

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## Egyptian authorities crack down on Muslim Brotherhood

By Mae Ghawash  
Agence France Presse

CAIRO — In an abrupt change of policy, the Egyptian government is cracking down on the Muslim Brotherhood, an organisation it had until recently sought to use as a counterbalance to militant Muslim radicals.

The government had an illusion that by tolerating the Brotherhood they were showing that they were against terrorism, but supported Islam," said Nagib Borai, secretary general of the Egyptian Organisation for Human Rights (EOHR).

"But then they realised that was fueling the terrorism, because the organisation ultimately shared the same aims," he added.

The government turned on the Brotherhood, a non-violent Islamic movement, after an intensive police offensive succeeded in neutralising the main militant group, the Jamaat Islamiyya.

Security forces killed leading members of the Jamaat and rounded up hundreds of suspects to end a violent anti-government campaign by militants which claimed more than 300 lives.

"When the government felt they were close to a final victory against the violent elements of the religious movement, they started a campaign against the political elements," a Cairo-based diplomat, who closely monitors the movement, said.

For the first time since Hosni Mubarak became president in 1981, popular Muslim scholars who sympathised with the Brotherhood have been barred

from state media.

Egyptian officials are describing the Brotherhood with terminology once reserved for the militants — "illegitimate" and "terrorist".

And although the detention of Brotherhood members is routine, some are facing capital punishment.

The Brotherhood was officially banned here in 1954, after a failed assassination attempt on President Gamal Abdul Nasser.

But under Mr. Mubarak, the group had been allowed to function openly.

Although banned from joining parliament under a religious party banner, the Brotherhood joined as independents and Socialist Labour Party members.

They have virtually taken over student associations and professional unions, representing doctors, lawyers and engineers.

Government officials hoped by tolerating the Brotherhood they would counter militant accusations that they were unbelievers.

But it became clear that despite being non-violent, the Brotherhood shared the militants' objectives.

"Our political aim is to oust the government," confirmed Brotherhood-member Essam Al Arian.

Prominent Islamic scholar Fahmy Howdy, a fundamentalist sympathiser, was barred from writing his weekly opinion piece in the semi-official daily Al Ahram.

The provocative but popular Sheikh Mohammed Al Ghazali no longer appears on religious television programmes.

And the public prosecutor last month summoned the Brotherhood's general guide, Hamed Abu Al Nasr, for questioning about a leaflet distributed last

May which allegedly attacked the government.

He became the first prominent Brotherhood member to be summoned since Mr. Mubarak became president.

Police last month also arrested 10 Brotherhood members and charged them with forming an illegal organisation and plotting to overthrow the government, resurrecting a case which first came to light in 1992.

It was the first time in Mr. Mubarak's presidency that such charges — punishable by death — have been brought against Brotherhood members.

The Brotherhood members were linked to Selabeel, a data gathering company which police said covered for an illegal group.

Investigators in 1992 found a Selabeel document called "The Enablement," which laid out a detailed plan to oust Mr. Mubarak's government and replace it with strict Islamic rule.

But the government did not act then, explains Hafez Abu Sida, an EOHR field worker who attended the Selabeel interrogations.

They feared the Brotherhood's support in the professional unions, plus the activity of the militant elements.

So they agreed instead to ignore the document, if the Brotherhood restricted its activities within the unions.

"The government reopened the case because the Brotherhood became active (in the unions), and they are almost rid of the violent (elements)," Abu Sida said. "Before it was the Brotherhood that was attacking, now it is the government that has waged war against the Brotherhood."

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# Home News

## French business teams to discuss boosting Kingdom's industry

By Elia Nasrallah  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Two French business delegations are due in Amman this weekend for talks on trade ties and ways of helping boost Jordan's industrial sector.

On Friday, a 16-member delegation which had been to Iraq is coming to Amman for a one-day visit during which it will sign with the Jordanian Business Association (JBA) an agreement for the establishment of a joint Jordanian-French Business Council, according to JBA sources.

The visit and the creation of the joint council were prepared during last month's meeting in Paris of Jordanian and French businessmen who were sounding the possibility of boosting economic cooperation, said the sources.

The delegation, to be led by Thierry Courtaigne, will meet with JBA members and follow up discussions on the joint ventures that were re-

viewed at the Paris meeting. The meeting in the French capital was held under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, and attended by Minister of Industry and Trade Rima Khalaf.

The delegation, according to the sources, will visit the Amman Chamber of Industry and discuss projects related to textiles and the shoe industry.

Chamber officials said that in 1993 Jordan imported from France commodities worth JD 98.5 million up from JD 78 million in 1992, whereas Jordan's exports to France increased to JD 1.3 million, up from JD 90,000 in the previous year.

The chamber source said that Jordan has been exporting potash, vegetables and fruit to French markets and importing television sets, cars, cheese, scents, spare parts for machinery and vehicles, poultry, radiators and boilers and parts for aircraft, among other commodities.

The Paris meeting, accord-

ing to JBA President Hamdi Tabbaa, was designed to help Jordan increase its exports of potash, fruit and vegetables to France and other European countries.

On Saturday, a seven-member French delegation of businessmen is due here on a three-day visit.

Chamber of Industry sources told the Jordan Times that the team includes representatives of various industrial concerns who would discuss prospects of helping establish small- and medium-size industrial schemes to produce components for larger Jordanian industries.

The team will be meeting with Industry and Trade Ministry officials, the Chamber of Industry and Jordanian industrialists, according to the sources.

The team is expected to meet with the ministry's Secretary General Marwan Awad and the members of "sub-contracting unit" whose duty is to provide service to the industrial sector in Jordan.

## 'Time to discuss tourism with everyone'

By Natasha Bukhari  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — While Minister of Tourism Mohammad Adwan believes that having any kind of contact over tourism with Israel at this stage is "premature" businesspeople in the trade think otherwise.

"We have to deal with matters in an open-minded and pragmatic manner," says Mohammad Imam, general manager of International Tourist Travel Services, adding that in view of the tangible progress on the Jordanian-Israeli peace track, Jordanian travel and tourist agents have to start communicating with the Israelis to prepare for any future bilateral agreement on tourism in the region.

Mr. Imam adds that "we should not act like ostriches and hide away from reality." The reality, according to him,

is that Jordan's tourism cannot survive without coordination with Israel, Syria, Egypt, Lebanon and the Palestinians.

Dr. Adwan maintains that matters concerning tourism in the region will only be discussed in current peace negotiations.

While informed sources in the tourism business told the Jordan Times that Jordan was represented in a tourism conference in Tel Aviv on June 13, Dr. Adwan said that he "had no knowledge of it, has not been consulted (on the issue), and, therefore, (he) can deny it."

The Israeli daily newspaper, Haaretz, said last week that five Jordanian businessmen were scheduled to attend the conference for which "Jewish businessmen were queuing."

The tourism business sources, who asked not to be

named, said that there was no harm in participating in such "friendly and beneficial" conferences to hear the "other point of view."

Mr. Imam said that since "we sat with the Israelis in Madrid, Washington and will be doing so in Aqaba next month, it is no big deal to meet with them in the occupied territories for business purposes."

He said he believed preparations should start by providing the "proper" infrastructure for tourism-related projects in Petra, the Kingdom's main attraction, and by establishing other bridges linking both the Palestinian self-rule areas and Israel to Jordan.

"We want tourists coming from the Holy Land to come and stay and not just use Jordan for an excursion," said Mr. Imam.

## 47 duty exempted projects registered

AMMAN (J.T.) — In the first five months of 1994 the Ministry of Industry and Trade registered 47 approved economic projects which are normally exempted from customs duty on equipment and assets, according to Iyad Qudah, assistant director of the Department for Encouraging Investment at the ministry.

Mr. Qudah said that the ministry also registered 25 economic projects which have less levels of exemptions and approved the expansion of already existing 152 other economic projects.

According to Mr. Qudah, these projects combined created 6,230 jobs, registering 453 more compared to the jobs created in the same period of last year. An approved economic project is exempted from income tax, as well as customs fees, while the economic projects enjoy exemption from customs duty only on their fixed assets, according to Mr. Qudah.

He said that exemption from income tax lasts from the time when project has been established until the start of production. Many are industrial projects, producing items for export, he added.

The minister said that the government plans to grant 100 per cent income tax exemption on exports, up from the present 70 per cent, in order to encourage local industrial projects to export goods and try to open new markets for Jordan in Europe and America.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Graduation ceremony

AMMAN (Petra) — The University of Jordan Wednesday held the last graduation ceremony for this academic year for students from the faculties of medicine (85), law (259), nursing (184) and post graduate studies (683). A series of ceremonies were held earlier for the graduation of batches of other faculties.

### Shaf'i, Bakhit hold talks

AMMAN (Petra) — The deputy director of the Islamic Education Ministry, Mohammad Shaf'i, Wednesday held talks with Al Al-Bayt University President Mohammad Adnan Al Bakhit on cooperation in Islamic education. Dr. Bakhit outlined Al Al-Bayt University's programs which focus on the teaching of Arabic language and Islamic studies to students from the Arab and Islamic World.

### Environment seminar

DEIR ALLA (Petra) — The Business and Professional Women Club and the Jordan Cooperative Organisation Wednesday organised a one-day seminar on ways of protecting the environment from pollution at Deir Alla, in the Jordan Valley. Among the speakers was Dr. Halah Al Khami, from the University of Jordan, who talked about rural women's contribution towards protecting the environment and the dangers of excessive use of pesticides.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### WORLD CUP USA 1994

★ Arabic language video series of World Cup football matches entitled "World Cup USA 1994" at the American Center auditorium (4:00-5:00 p.m.).

### FILM

★ Video film in French on sculptor "Olivier Descamps" at Darat Al Fann of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Luweibdeh on Thursday at 5:00 p.m.  
★ Film entitled "Wildcats" at the American Center on Thursday at 5:00 p.m. (106 minutes).  
★ Film entitled "27 Hour" at the Spanish Cultural Centre on Thursday at 4:30 p.m. (Tel 610655).

★ Drama in Arabic entitled "The Strongest" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 7:30 p.m.

### EXHIBITIONS

★ A painting exhibition by Iraqi painters the Pioneers Group at Al Ain Art Gallery — Wadi Sagra Tel.: 644451, at 7:00 p.m.  
★ Painting exhibition by Nails Deeb on the Goethe-Institut at 5:30 p.m.  
★ An art exhibition "The Form and Colour in the Arab Art Exhibition" by 16 artists from Jordan and Iraq and the Spanish Cultural Centre.  
★ Exhibition of paintings by Sophia Ziadah at the Royal Cultural Centre.  
★ Exhibition of works by several Arab artists at the Phoenix Gallery for Art and Culture (Tel. 695291).  
★ Exhibition by artist Mohammad Fradi at the Othali Art Gallery in Umm Utheina (Tel. 826932).  
★ Child Needs Expo at the International Motor Exhibition, Airport Highway (Tel. 653836).  
★ Exhibition by plastic artist Shawkat Al Alousi at the Al Ain Art Gallery (Tel. 672872).  
★ Exhibition on the development of "Le Louvre" at the French Cultural Centre.  
★ Painting exhibition by artist George Bahjouri at Al Balqa Art Gallery (Tel. 728677).  
★ Painting exhibition by Jordanian artist Abdil Ra'if Sham'oun at Darat Al Fann of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Luweibdeh. Also showing "permanent" exhibition of 56 Arab contemporary artists (Tel. 643251/2).

## Ministry of Health, WHO to launch 5-year plan for fighting AIDS

By a Jordan Times  
Staff Reporter

AMMAN (J.T.) — Working in cooperation with the World Health Organisation (WHO), the Ministry of Health is preparing an integrated programme to fight off the killer disease AIDS in the coming five years; the private and public health sectors are also involved in this national scheme.

The announcement was made Wednesday by Dr. Makram Nsheiwat, director of the Medical Professions Department at the Ministry of Health, at the opening of a three-day workshop organized at the Jerusalem Hotel by the Jordanian Society for Family Protection and Planning, in cooperation with the Ministry of Health and the WHO.

"Reaching out to the most vulnerable sectors in our society and orienting them on means of protecting them-

selves against AIDS is at the top of priorities of the five-year plan," said Dr. Nsheiwat, who deputised at the meeting for Health Minister Aref Al Bataneh.

The Health Ministry had said that until last month only one AIDS case was registered among Jordanians and three among foreign nationals, raising to 70 the total number of Jordanians and to 30 that of foreigners infected with the disease since 1986 when the first case was reported.

Despite the fact that Jordan is among the countries with a very low rate of AIDS cases, the Health Ministry is determined to double its efforts to stem the disease completely through spreading awareness among the youth and through various public awareness campaigns, said Dr. Nsheiwat.

Indeed, the Health Ministry embarked on awareness programmes ever since 1980 and has been adopting mea-

tourist attractions inviting visitors from around the globe.

To fight the killer disease worldwide, he added, six world organisations, including the WHO, will meet next year to embark on the implementation of a world-wide campaign, added Dr. Suleiman.

Dr. Abdullah Abul Ata, head of the Jordanian society that organized the workshop, reviewed the society's various activities through its 12 clinics in the country to fight off AIDS.

The activities, he said, included seminars and lectures, as well as workshops, to spread awareness about AIDS and means for prevention.

Several Health Ministry officials delivered lectures at the opening session of the workshop which is attended by representatives of the public and private health sectors in Jordan.

## UNESCO Arab National Commissions meet to prepare draft plan for 1996-2001

By Karanza Jadoun  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Under the patronage of Education Minister and Chairman of the Jordan National Commission for UNESCO Abdul Raouf Rawabdeh, Amman will host a five-day consultation of Arab National Commissions for United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) starting June 25.

The consultation of member states, associate members and inter-governmental and international non-governmental organisations will focus on the preparation of the Fourth Draft Medium-Term Plan for 1996-2001 and Draft Programme and Budget for 1996-1997.

He said that Jordan imported Indian soybean, cereals and frozen meat along with pesticides, machinery and machine spare parts.

India and Jordan are currently implementing a \$165 million factory to produce phosphate-based fertilisers.

The Indian minister also Wednesday met Suleiman Howari, director general of the Arab Potash Company (APC), who said later that Jordan's potash exports to India this year could reach 420,000 tonnes.

The agriculture minister, accompanied by Mr. Jakhar on a tour of the Graeco-Roman city of Jerash and agricultural projects in the Zarqa River Basin as well as the King Tal Dam.

The plan's chief aim is to set the general policy to be followed with regard to priority fields of action and strategies to be implemented.

This consultative meeting, which is one of other

meetings that are being held at sub-regional, regional and inter-regional level since May and till the end of July 1994, has come as a result of UNESCO's General Conference.

At the General Conference, held in November 1993 in Paris, member states were in favour of a six-year plan that would draw the major lines of emphasis for the organisation's mission and action during the period 1996-2001.

According to Maram Rabadi, assistant director-general of the Bureau of Studies, Programming and Evaluation, who will introduce the working document.

In addition to the representatives of the Arab National Commissions and the heads of UNECO field offices and units, members of the International Commission on Education for the Twenty-First Century will also attend the meeting.

But Mr. Madani noted that India's imports of Jordanian products registered \$157 million last year, up from \$95 million in 1991.

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## Jordan Times

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### Parallel, not competing, tracks

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein has only expressed the inevitable when he announced in Washington Tuesday that the Jordanian negotiating track need not be bogged down by progress, or the lack of it, on other tracks. The Jordanian-Israeli negotiations due to start again next month in the region are "not negotiations linked to anything that may or may not happen on any other track," the King said. He went on to add that the Kingdom's negotiations with Israel constitute "a sovereign matter involving Jordan itself and has nothing to do with, nor is it tied to, movements on any other track."

This Jordanian decision was not taken in a vacuum. It is no secret that there has been no adequate coordination between the various Arab parties to the peace process despite pretenses to the contrary. Jordan has all along the years called and insisted on full and *bona fide* cooperation and coordination between the Arab negotiating teams. No one can accuse Jordan of not having been steadfast in that direction throughout the past years and ever since the Madrid peace conference was launched in 1991. There was a time when Jordan was the first Arab party to reach preliminary agreement with Israel but decided to put its track on hold until the other Arab parties register equal progress. Recent developments revealed that Jordan ended up far behind in its own negotiating process. The record of Arab coordination speaks for itself and the least that can be said about it is that it did not reflect the degree of coordination and openness that Jordan had hoped for.

However, Jordan remains committed to the need for achieving a comprehensive peace in the region, ensuring not only Jordan's sovereign rights but also those of our brethren in Syria, Lebanon and Palestine. Besides, there is no way that the PLO can complete its negotiating process with Israel as long as Jordan's interests continue to be held in suspense. The resolution of the Palestinian question, and the quest for Palestinian independence necessitate not only Jordanian support but also parallel progress on the Jordanian front in order to give an added coherence to the Palestinian just and legitimate aspirations.

All Arab parties are poised to move to an advanced stage in their respective negotiations. What is holding up some of them is not substance but form. Jordan, therefore, believes that a comprehensive settlement of the conflict is not only desirable but essential, since peace is the goal of all the peoples and leaderships in the region.

### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i daily Wednesday tackled the Palestine refugees question, saying that they were ignored in the ongoing Arab-Israeli peace process. Of course, we do not expect the refugees question to be solved through their repatriation to their usurped lands but at least they should receive compensation for their loss of property and homes, said Yousef Abdullah Mahmoud. The issue of compensating the refugees is the focus of attention of Mohammad Rabie, who is currently visiting Jordan to discuss prospects of compensation, which is the right of the Palestinian people who have been displaced and living since 1948 in Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and the Palestinian camps of the occupied territories, said the writer. The writer said that Dr. Rabie should urge the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to make it a condition that compensation will be paid prior to achieving a lasting settlement. The writer said that the world community should support Dr. Rabie's idea of creating a special organisation for the rights of the refugees so that their plight can be presented at the world level and that serious efforts be made to ensure safeguards for their rights.

A COLUMNIST in Al Dastour Wednesday demanded that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) ask for the release of all detainees. Mohammad Kawash said that by forcing the released detainees to remain confined to the autonomy rule in Jericho, Israel is trying to create further problems for the Palestine National Authority, which is dedicating its time and effort to provide much needed help to the Palestinians following 27 years of occupation. By withdrawing its forces from the Gaza Strip and Jericho areas, said the writer Israel has aimed at shifting the burden of catering to the social and economic needs of the Palestinian people and their institutions to the Palestine National Authority, which has not yet received any of the promised aid to help it establish its control of the evacuated regions. The Palestinian people under autonomy rule, added the writer are in need of better life, jobs and services, not of more complications and additional burdens.

### The View From Academia

## The Middle East peace process, the U.S. role and the Arab position

By Dr. Ahmad H. Majdoubah

UNQUESTIONABLY, the U.S. role as sponsor and broker in the Middle East peace process and the positive Arab response to peace initiatives are two fundamental factors which have significantly contributed to the overall improvement of the prospects of a comprehensive settlement of the region's various thorny issues, a settlement which appears closer to attain now than it has ever appeared since the beginning of the Arab-Israeli conflict. However, while the American involvement is on the whole active but cautious, Arab reciprocation or engagement is generally warm but somewhat unenergetic.

Presently, the U.S. administration's stance with regard to the Middle East conflict seems far more informed and affirmative than it has been for years. Three points need to be highlighted in this respect.

1. To be sure, one is still frequently vexed by Washington's often "bland," unscrupulously, ambiguous and extremely noncommittal statements on Jerusalem, the illegal Israeli settlements in the occupied territories, and Israel's prostration tactics in negotiations with the Palestinians as well as (most recently) Israel's flagrant violations of the principles of the agreement with the PLO. Furthermore, one is still disappointed with its handling of the Aqaba affair, the siege imposed on the Iraqi people, and its bias toward Israel. The American administration is, until this very day, much more alert to, supportive of and sympathetic with Israel's concerns, wishes and even whims than Arab needs and rights. The treatment is not even-handed.

Nevertheless, it has recently shown, through words and deeds, a willingness and a readiness to shift into a more desirable and fruitful relationship with the Arab Middle East, one which is more conscious and respectful of Arab feelings, aspirations, and national ideals. One often detects a more sober tone in American political discourse on the Arab and Muslim Worlds than at any time before. Also, the U.S. support for the PLO self-rule accord with Israel, the pledge to finance projects in the occupied territories, the constant contacts with Amman and Cairo, the channels of communication with Syria and Lebanon, are all steps in the right direction and signs of a more promising era of Arab-American relations. This is all heartening and encouraging.

2. Even though the American administration has a lot on its mind, in the messy aftermath of the cold war period, it is nonetheless devoting significant attention to the Middle East region. Globally, President Bill Clinton and his foreign policy team of secretaries and aides are keeping a close eye on a number of crucial and potentially threatening and dangerous events and developments: tension in the Korean Peninsula, the mounting conflict in Yemen, the impotent Bosnian initiatives, headaches coming from Haiti and some Latin-American countries, the shaky stability of former Soviet republics, the anxious relationship with Japan and China and occasional frictions with European countries. Locally, the economy and the president's various bills, projects and "scandals" are both troubling and disruptive.

And yet, the Middle East peace process is a priority on the U.S. political agenda. The administration not only greatly encourages and welcomes visits by Middle Eastern leaders and personalities and lends a listening ear, but it also

dispatches the secretary of state and other envoys to the region consistently on shuttle missions to resuscitate the peace process when it seems to lose consciousness, to explore new ideas the minute they appear in the horizon, to facilitate agreements when the momentum of peace builds up, and to sort out differences which threaten to sabotage progress. This is all reflected clearly, for example, in the PLO-Israeli Cairo agreement, the Syrian-Israeli exchange of views on the Golan and the recent Jordanian-Israeli talks in Washington. Such interest in the region on part of the U.S., despite whatever "motives" or "plans" there may be lurking behind it, is itself an asset.

3. The American approach to the Middle East question seems to be, though not as dramatic and intense as one would have hoped, quite realistic and reasonable. The way I see it, the current U.S. administration's philosophy in tackling the Arab-Israeli conflict seems to rest on the assumption that the parties to the conflict themselves are to play the major part. The U.S. is there as a catalyst, a messenger of goodwill, a host and a go-between. Ideally, one would have opted for a more rigorous, more involved and more heavy-handed approach. After all, who is to press Israel to be a little more reasonable and a little less inflexible and arrogant. But the Clinton administration, unlike Jimmy Carter's, is reluctant to play such a role. Its approach may best be described as the half-way approach; it is neither as detached as in the case of some previous administrations nor as devoted as in Mr. Carter's.

We are willing to understand and accept this philosophy, as long as the peace process does not last forever and eventually lose its pace and effectiveness, assuming the other tracks will soon be in full swing. Yes, since the conflict is between the Arabs and Israelis essentially the Arabs and Israelis have to learn to sit by themselves at the negotiating table and sort out their own differences. Judging from what has happened and is happening on the Palestinian track, such strategy seems to be quite possible, though certainly uninteresting, painful, and extremely frustrating for the most part. One can even appreciate the U.S. administration's present approach, especially when one compares it with previous approaches, such as in the Reagan era (1980-1988) when the U.S. was extremely pro-Israeli and extremely lukewarm towards the Arabs generally when it showed almost no interest in the Arab Middle East region (Reaganomics, the Star-wars space programme, and tension with the Soviet Union were way higher on the U.S. agenda), and when there was effectively no approach to the Arab-Israeli conflict (the Reagan plan was pure lip-service).

I am not saying that the American Middle Eastern strategy these days is exactly what we in the Arab Middle East want. No. There are several flaws and gaps in it, from our own perspective. What I am saying, however, is that it does provide a historic opportunity — or half an opportunity, to be exact, for the U.S. administration is extending its hand to us only half-way.

But we in the Arab Middle East have also to extend our hand the rest of the way, and this is what I also wish to emphasise here.

Frankly speaking, I feel we can do a lot more than we are

doing to speed up the peace process and squeeze the best of results out of it. It is true that we do reciprocate and respond whenever an opportunity presents itself to us. It is also true that we are dealing with a very delicate, very sensitive and very complex situation, and that we ought to proceed with utmost care and caution. We want a solution to the Middle East problem which the vast majority accepts and which the future generations bless. We are entrusted with a task which is of vital importance not only to the Palestinians, the Jordanians, the Syrians, and the Lebanese but also to each and every individual in the Arab nation and the Muslim World. Jerusalem means as much to a Muslim in Indonesia as it does to a Palestinian from Sifwan.

But this does not mean that we take all the time in the world and let golden opportunities pass by. Nor should we stay at home comfortably and expect others to come and hand us our rights on a golden platter. I am extremely bothered by many writers, journalists, political scientists and politicians in the Arab World who still cling desperately to the very unhealthy attitude we have inherited since the beginning of the Arab-Israeli conflict and seem to be stuck with: i.e. that all people know that Israel is the aggressor; that it occupied our land by force, that the U.N. has granted us the right to return, that Israel must withdraw from the occupied territories unconditionally, and that the superpowers ought to pressure Israel into immediate return of our land. This is all true. But it is naive to assume that it can happen overnight or that it can be achieved through pure expression of ourselves, through media rhetoric, or through global justice or charity.

We need to get involved, to explore all the venues available, to be more aggressive in asserting ourselves and realising our just demands than we ever have. We have nothing to fear: International law is on our side, the world community (Eastern and Western) is more sympathetic than it has ever been, and history is with us. Nobody can force us to accept anything we do not think fair or just.

More specifically, we ought to do two things. First, we must stay in the peace process keep it alive, negotiate aggressively and press for results. We have rights to attain, and Israel must yield us our rights. Otherwise, let Israel quit, not us.

Second, let us simultaneously wean ourselves from passive reliance on the U.S. but keep in constant contact and coordinate closely with the Clinton administration whose attitude towards Middle Eastern peace is essentially well-meaning. The times when Warren Christopher cannot come to the area, we can go to Washington. Peace is an urgent business; Israel, America, and the whole world have as much to gain from it as we do. Through such contact and coordination, we can perhaps succeed in pressing the U.S. to pressure Israel to speed up the process. I view the recent Jordanian-Israeli peace talks in Washington and His Majesty the King's current visit to the U.S. in the context of such healthy and tactful diplomacy.

The present circumstances are quite congenial and benign. However, we cannot guarantee that they will last forever. We need to act a little more assertively and energetically, and we need to initiate not just receive or respond.

### North Korean summit offer derails sanctions

By Paul Shin  
The Associated Press

SEOUL — By offering to hold summit talks with rival South Korea, North Korean President Kim Il Sung has raised hopes for an easing of the crisis over his country's nuclear programme.

But some South Koreans worry that Mr. Kim's offer was made to derail a U.S. campaign for U.N. sanctions against the North, and questions whether the summit will ever take place.

Mr. Kim made the offer to meet with South Korean President Kim Young-Sam during six days of mediation last week by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, who visited both Koreas to try to ease mounting nuclear tensions.

The summit would be the first between the leaders of the rival Koreas since the peninsula was divided into the Communist North and capitalist South in 1945.

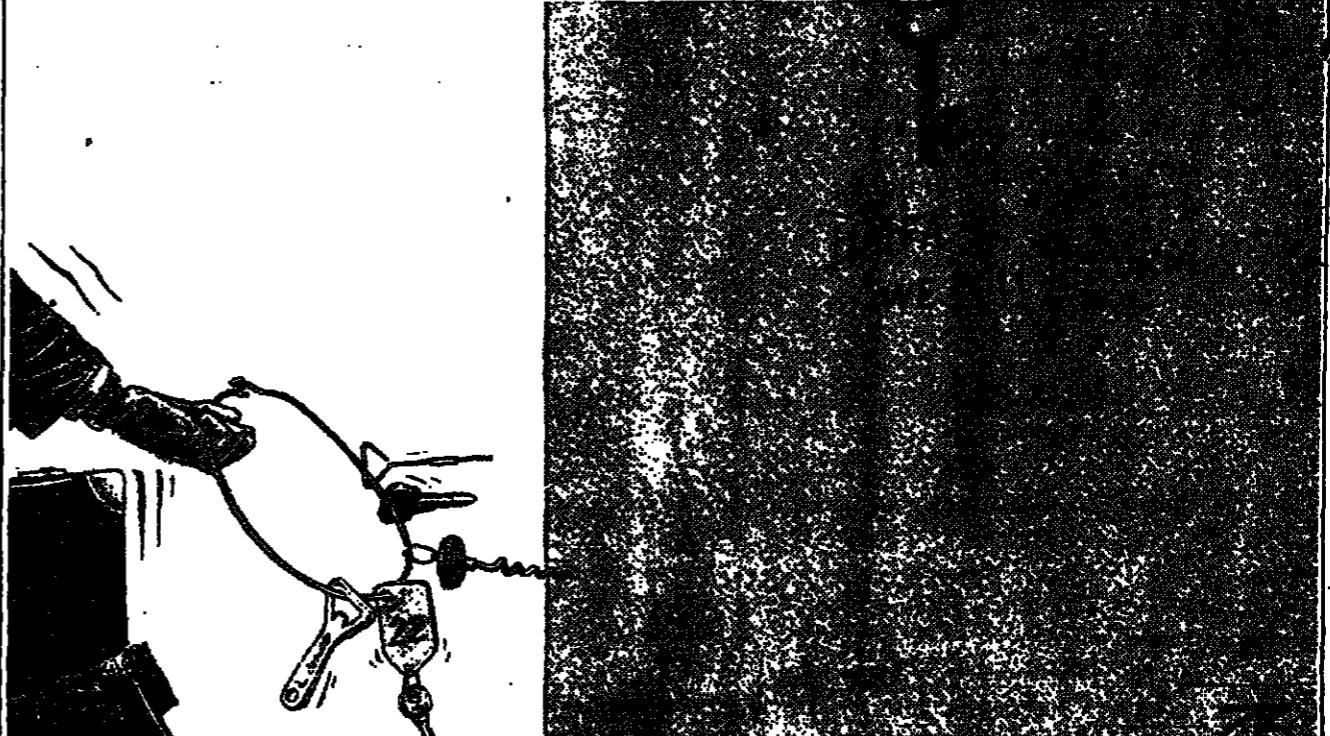
South Korean President Kim Young-Sam quickly accepted the proposal. His government has felt excluded by past bilateral U.S.-North Korean talks.

In his meetings with Mr. Carter, Mr. Kim Il Sung also offered to freeze his nuclear programme if the United States agrees to hold a third round of high-level talks on resolving the nuclear dispute and improving ties.

Washington held two rounds of talks with North Korea last year, but further talks were cancelled because of the North's refusal to allow unrestricted nuclear inspections.

Mr. Kim Il Sung also promised not to expell U.N. inspectors now in North Korea and keep surveillance cameras installed at its nuclear facilities. Mr. Carter said.

But Mr. Kim Yong San, a secretary of North Korea's Ruling Workers' Party, told a visiting Japanese lawmaker that U.N. inspectors would not be allowed to see two key suspected nuclear sites that North Korea has not publicly declared.



### Clinton foreign policy team suspect as he faces greatest challenge

By Nick Ludington  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.S. President Bill Clinton is facing his first international crisis clearly affecting American strategic interests while his foreign policy team is under continuing criticism for indecision and confusion.

The dispute over North Korea's nuclear programme involves a threat to 37,000 American troops in South Korea, the specter of North Korean nuclear sales, and the security of two close allies — South Korea and Japan.

In the Bosnian conflict, the United States has no troops on the ground. The main argument for U.S. involvement is diplomatic: That U.S. leadership in Europe is at stake and European support for U.S. goals in other crises might be curtailed.

And Haiti is essentially a domestic problem, with the threat of an influx of refugees and their treatment causing more concern than Mr. Clinton's failure to restore ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide to power.

Only the Korean issue raises immediate strategic concerns.

And it comes amid what the New York Times de-

scribes in an editorial as "gathering alarm over the administration's foreign policy performance."

The main U.S. objective is to get North Korea to accept full and regular inspections of its nuclear facilities by the International Atomic Energy Agency to ensure that nuclear material is not diverted to build weapons.

North Korea's stated goal is to engage Washington in talks leading to full U.S. diplomatic recognition and help in modernising its economy.

Richard Haass, an expert at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, described Mr. Clinton's dilemma if diplomatic efforts fail to persuade Kim Il Sung to allow international nuclear controls.

Letting North Korea develop nuclear weapons "would set a terrible precedent for non-proliferation efforts. North Korea could provide nuclear help to other rogue states such as Libya, Iran and Iraq."

But an American strike to destroy verified North Korean nuclear weapons production could lead to war, "perhaps North Korean nuclear explosions in the South — a war that would cost tens of thousands of American and

South Korean lives," Mr. Haass said.

He suggested in a New York Times article that war would be less likely if U.S. forces in Korea are reinforced, and North Korea is told that any war would be carried on until Korea was unified under southern leadership.

Brent Skowcroft, national security advisor to presidents Ford and Bush, also advocated a stick approach.

He suggested we tell the North Koreans they must permit unfettered inspection of nuclear materials or the United States will destroy their nuclear weapons capacity.

"We should ensure that both our actions and our words make clear to Pyongyang that we will not be intimidated by threats and will not be paralysed by the possibility of war," he wrote in the Washington Post.

Donald Gregg, a former CIA official and ambassador to South Korea, was for holding out the carrot.

Mr. Gregg was hopeful that if Mr. Clinton addressed broader issues of economic aid and trade with the North Koreans, the crisis can be defused.

"Bill Clinton is too smart a man not to figure out that he must talk to the North

Koreans as well as confronting them," Mr. Gregg wrote in the Post.

He quoted an unnamed South Korean general as saying that "the North Koreans think you are trying to strangle them. They want better relations with you."

But South Korea's defense Minister, Rhee Bong-Tae, said he believed the North was not simply using fears over its nuclear intentions to win concessions.

"North Korea's nuclear weapons development is not for diplomatic bargaining," said Mr. Rhee. "It appears to be aiming to become a nuclear nation."

For Mr. Clinton, a successful outcome of the confusing Korea crisis will dispel foreign policy criticism.

Already the president has reached with a minor mid-level shakeup which will bring Richard Holbrooke, U.S. ambassador to Germany, to Washington to head up the state department's European operations and move Alexander Vershbow, a highly regarded diplomat, to head European desk at the National Security Council.

But if things go badly with North Korea, it will increase the pressure for changes at a much higher level.

## Features

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# King: President Assad and I understand each other very, very well; Jordan hopes there will be progress on all tracks

The following is the full text of His Majesty King Hussein's meeting with members of the press at the Four Seasons Hotel in Washington, Tuesday, June 21, 1994.

KING HUSSEIN: Good morning ladies and gentlemen. It's such a great pleasure for me to have this opportunity to be with you today. I am glad to see many old and very familiar faces. I hope that I'll have a chance in the next few minutes to respond to any of your questions. And first, I once again thank — to have an open dialogue — on behalf of Noor and the Jordanian group with me. We would like also to express our delight at seeing you at this hour.

JOHN WALLACH: Your Majesty, perhaps we could begin by first of all thanking you for spending your time with us and ask you to give us a sense of — if you think now that there has been enough progress made for Jordan to move forward towards a peace treaty with Israel?

KING HUSSEIN: I will even in response to your comments sir, that we are on verge of beginning the serious negotiations that hopefully will lead to the establishment of peace between us. As you will recall, we ratified the agenda following the great event that took place here in Washington, on the Palestinian-Israeli track, and we have been waiting to commence serious negotiations on all aspects of the problems between us and Israel, and on all the subjects, topics, mentioned in that agenda.

I believe that that major step was taken when the meetings were held here last. And I believe it is already constructive moment in the sense that we have decided to move to the area and to commence negotiations there.

I would like to say once again that we are fully convinced that nothing meaningful could have been achieved or could be achieved unless it was preceded by serious negotiations to resolve all problems and that the crowning achievement of all these efforts hopefully is a peace treaty and a state of peace between all parties.

JOHN WALLACH: Can you say, if I can just follow up, Your Majesty, whether in that context you would consider a visit to Jerusalem, to the holy sites, the Muslim holy sites in Jerusalem.

KING HUSSEIN: I have no such plans at the moment, sir. These suggestions have come from many (...) for me to consider that, but I hope the opportunity will arise when I will be able to visit the holy sites in Jerusalem.

HAMDI FOUAD: Your Majesty, will you tell us about your talks in Washington and your expected meeting with the president tomorrow, what you have achieved, what do you want to achieve actually, from your dialogue with the American administration?

KING HUSSEIN: As you probably realise, I'm here in the United States, in Washington, in particular, following my visit to Rochester, to the Mayo Clinic, where I'm pleased to say that I was given a clean bill of health. There was no evidence of cancer after two years of surgery, and therefore hopefully my visit to Mayo will be on an annual basis from now on. But I could not be in the United States and not be here in Washington, particularly at such an important and exciting time regarding developments in our region. So I have had talks with the Secretary of State, yesterday, and I report to meeting with the President tomorrow, and, in the meantime there are other meetings scheduled. And, whenever we meet, we meet to discuss all aspects of our bilateral relations and regional matters and the cooperation that we hope will grow in the times ahead between our two countries.

TRUDY RUBIN: Your Majesty, recently you visited President Assad in Damascus and then shortly afterwards there was progress. — This is a question about coordination between the Arab parties to the peace process. You visited President Assad recently. Shortly afterwards there was progress on the Jordan-Israel track, but there has been some criticism heard from Syria that Jordan is moving too fast. Could you say something about the coordination with Syria and how the timing of progress can go forward, how fast can Jordan move if Syria is not moving? And also, on the question of Palestinian-Jordanian cooperation, when I was recently in Amman, I heard a word used often, frequently, even from Palestinians living on the East Bank that I hadn't heard in a while, and the word was federation, and I heard it used quite frequently. I wonder if you could say something about when the issue of the future relationship between the Palestinians and Jordanians have to be addressed again?

KING HUSSEIN: Well, to begin with, I think I'll address the second part of your question regarding the future of the relationship between Jordan and our Palestinian brethren, on Palestinian soil. I believe that it is premature to speculate as to what form it will take, I'm sure that it will be a very close relationship. And, I'm sure that in time, when conditions are ripe, people are under conditions of total freedom can work together to define that relationship. This hasn't happened so far, so it is premature to really define the way these relationships will be formatted. As far as your question regarding the peace process we started at the same point in time, and I believe that as far as Amman and Damascus are concerned, we've always been in touch. And in terms of matters relating to policy, these have been discussed time and again between me and the President of Syria Hafez Al Assad. So my visit there was actually within that context and we were negotiating, they were negotiating. I hope that eventually all these tracks will see active movement towards the objective of having a comprehensive peace in the region. But as far as we are concerned, we will be as fast or as slow as we are able to achieve real progress in resolving all the problems that are there on the agenda between us and Israel. And I hope that they will approach the coming negotiations with a constructive, serious spirit, and therefore we will move rapidly. I can't set a time, I really don't, but I really hope that we will see some rapid progress.

AMAL MUDALLALI: Your Majesty, on this question you said that you discussed these matters with Mr. Assad. Does this mean that you discussed the agreement that you had with the Americans, did he know about it beforehand? And why are the Syrians feeling betrayed that the Jordanians left them alone with the Israelis.

KING HUSSEIN: Well, I think this seems to happen, we seem to find every now and then that someone complains about another leaving him alone, but this hasn't happened on the very level that I was discussing. President Assad and I understand each other very, very well. I know of his concern to see Syria move towards achieving the kind of peace that it can live with, and that he knows that we are doing the same. So, in the area of coordination I would like to say that there has never been the kind of coordination that would enable us to know exactly where any track is at any given moment. We have our own peculiar set of circumstances and problems which we are trying to address and the Syrians have the same as do the Lebanese. Therefore movement as far as we are concerned — this is a question of a sovereign matter regarding Jordan itself. That has nothing to do, nor is it tied to movement on any other track. We hope that they will catch up and maybe they will overtake us at any time if they so desire but that is something which we can't do, that is something they can do.

AZIZ FAHMI: Your Majesty, immediately after this trip to Damascus, it was reported that either you or President Assad suggested a unity between Jordan and Syria. Will you be able to tell us whether this was a Syrian idea and what was the motivation?

KING HUSSEIN: No sir, we have always worked for complimentarity and the closest possible cooperation between Jordan and Syria, Lebanon hopefully, and certainly with Egypt, and there was a meeting of a Joint Commission with Egypt that was revived again, just a short while ago. And in Egypt the same context there was going to be a meeting with Syria. So this was postponed but essentially this would have dealt with the issues other than the political ones that usually are being dealt with between me and President Assad.

SID BALMAN: Your Highness, on the talks with the Americans, did you make any headway on your request to

resell F-5s and could you talk a little bit about that, who you would like to sell them to, and also your request to purchase additional American military equipment; and lastly, finalising the arrangements to get a land-based inspection system (...)

KING HUSSEIN: I haven't had a chance to cover all these points in any detail, but we are, as far as Jordan is concerned, looking at the moment at the present situation and the future in terms of hopefully reorganisation of our armed forces and to meet the challenges of the demands of the coming period, both in terms of the defence of Jordan and also in terms of the role that we play in the international arena, particularly in the area of troops that are with the United Nations, have been, covering a period of time. So we have ideas and plans and we hope that we will be able to discuss them with our friends to modernise and to reorganise our armed forces in the times ahead.

SID BALMAN: It sounded as if you're discussing mainly ground, army-type equipment.

KING HUSSEIN: I'm not discussing anything in particular. I'm just giving you an idea of where we are at the moment, we haven't formulated our plans totally, but, obviously, we discuss our requirements with our friends.

SID BALMAN: And you're planning to resell the old American jet fighters?

KING HUSSEIN: Well, this is not something that is, well, obviously, if we replace them in the future, then we have to see what we replace them with and what we do with them. But, this is something that I'm not prepared to answer at this stage and something that we will be discussing with our friends.

JIM ANDERSON: Your Majesty, back on the peace process. At this stage do you think it is reversible? I'm thinking in terms of circumstances such as, for example, the Likud taking over the Israeli government. In such circumstances do you think the clock could be turned back to where the Middle East was three years ago?

KING HUSSEIN: I certainly hope not. And I believe that the process is irreversible and we are certainly committed to moving ahead towards establishment of a just, comprehensive peace in that region. This is something that we feel we are close to. But it is going to require the best efforts of all concerned. We are looking forward to seeing some rapid progress on the Jordanian-Israeli track and we hope that this will be the case with other tracks as well.

JIM ANDERSON: On that issue is there anything that the Americans could be doing right now to further advance the process?

KING HUSSEIN: They have been involved with the process and sponsored the process and, I'm sure, helped us very, very much indeed to get to this point and I hope that their involvement will continue in the times ahead.

Q: Your Majesty, how do you foresee Jordan's relations with Israel after an agreement is signed? Do you think it will be promising for the Jordanians in terms of economic and touristic interests?

KING HUSSEIN: As far as that goes I believe, obviously, that if we arrive at a state of peace, it will be a change of everything that we've had to live with and endure over many, many years. It will need to be the effort of all people in Jordan and Israel and the whole region, particularly if the circle is enlarged to include all involved in the conflict so far. As far as we are concerned, these coming negotiations, (...), as you know within the areas of great concern for us are territorial rights, the border between us and Israel is not clearly settled yet in terms of an issue that is very, very important to us to regain our sovereignty over the areas that are occupied by Israel in southern Jordan at this stage. So, the question of border demarcation and delineation is very, very important. Not to create a new barrier, but in the context of movement towards peace, we hope that the valley itself will become the valley of peace, the valley of opportunities for cooperation on many themes, many areas.

Another area, of course, is of importance to us and that is the question of water and our rights and our share in that. Plus the environment, plus all the other subjects that have to be discussed. So what we are trying to do right now is, hopefully, approach a serious phase of negotiations to resolve all these problems and bring about the changes that will affect the quality of life of people, affect them in terms of their hopes, aspirations, and the opportunities that would be the resulting factor of all this (...).

HUDA TEWFIQ: Your Majesty, you mentioned moving quickly between Jordan and Israel, and that there is no link between the Jordanian track and the other tracks. When you finish the negotiations on the agenda would you be ready to sign even if the other tracks are not progressing?

KING HUSSEIN: Our position on that is not linked to anything that may or may not happen on any other track. But I am saying that what we are searching for is a comprehensive peace, and therefore, one would obviously stress the need for progress on all tracks so that we achieve this comprehensive peace.

For example, in regard to Jordanian-Palestinian relations in the times ahead, we in Jordan continue to respond to any demand for help in any particular area. But let's say we take the area of economic dimensions, the economy as between us and our Palestinian brethren and Israel, if coordination has not achieved very much, then obviously we have to negotiate this subject as Jordan together with the Palestinians and the Israelis in the times ahead. In other words, there are bilateral negotiations, and trilateral negotiations and there are going to be quadrilateral negotiations, with Egypt for example, in terms of the return of Palestinians to the occupied territories.

We can't resolve the question of water without hopefully seeing progress everywhere. But the point is, our wish is for progress to be achieved on all tracks. However, we are a sovereign country, we are dealing with our own problems, we started at the same point, and we are trying to see what we can achieve. Whether we will or not does not depend on any other factor other than Israel standing to the same kind of spirit, and our mutually reaching a satisfactory conclusion between us and settling all the items on the agenda.

HUDA TEWFIQ: Would we see a peace treaty this year, Your Majesty?

KING HUSSEIN: I can't tell you that. I can't tell you.

Q: Your Majesty, you were quoted yesterday (Monday) saying you would agree to talk to Israeli leaders, as you've indicated you would in the past. Today they are responding, saying they would like to meet with you. Do you foresee that these peace process talks beginning next month would lead to or include at some point, finally, a public meeting between you and the Israeli leaders?

KING HUSSEIN: Whenever the time is right, whenever there is a need to welcome that. It's no problem.

Q: Would you be willing to confirm for us whether you saw the Israeli leadership recently?

KING HUSSEIN: I am not going to comment on press speculations in that regard, to media speculations, one way or the other. I think you have had that answer, so this is the answer too.

Q: Your Majesty, going back to the problem concerning the Syrian criticism directly, or indirectly after the agreement in Washington. Can you explain to us why the Syrians are not happy about what happened in Washington in the last two weeks, resuming the negotiations, and what would be your response to that question Huda asked? Is the peace treaty, possible peace treaty between Jordan and Israel could happen without any progress on other tracks?

KING HUSSEIN: Let me ask you a question myself, to all of you. Is Jordan expected to be the last to ratify a peace treaty?

Q: I thought everybody would sign it in the same time frame. KING HUSSEIN: That's what we hope for will happen. But to get there we have to begin negotiating; and this precisely what we are doing. So I hope that these serious negotiations will achieve some result.

Q: Your Majesty, will you explain please and shed some

light or what made you feel that it is the right moment to go forward on a road that, eventually, will end in a...

KING HUSSEIN: That was not our doing. We have, I think, suggested since the outset that we have to translate the items of the agenda into realities by negotiating over them. And that a peace treaty is the crowning achievement of resolving all the problems. So, we've been waiting, but when the Israelis were ready to begin, I think, we have seen some progress. So, it wasn't anything that was the result of our hesitation or attempt to hold the issue.

Q: Were there any historical moments that you thought that it was the right moment to go forward?

KING HUSSEIN: Not at all, sir. We weren't playing tactics. We were waiting and ready and the moment has arrived so we are beginning to move.

AZIZ FAHMI: Your Majesty, you mentioned something about the water rights, which the Israelis have been denying, or refusing to discuss water rights before, and finally they did this in Washington. Maybe this contributed to making progress on the Jordanian track. If you look back to the beginning of the establishment of Israel, from 1948 to 1951, Israel received 600,000 immigrants, and this caused a serious water shortage in Israel. As a result, Israel started to divert the Jordan River and a whole sequence of events that led to the 1967 War. Are you concerned now about the wave of immigration coming from Russia, that apparently now there are 450,000 already arrived on the ground in Israel? This, apparently, is posing a serious threat and shortage for water in Israel itself. Are you concerned that will be — do you see that this was one of the reasons for maybe the Israeli moves towards peace, and do you see a new threat on our waters because of new immigration?

KING HUSSEIN: I hope that the question of water resources available in the region will be resolved to the satisfaction of all. But on the other hand, I would like to say that it is my feeling that before too long even all these resources that are available will not be enough to meet the demands and the needs of all. So water is a very, very important subject and important need for everyone in the region. And that again, is a reason for us to move ahead because, among so many reasons, we have to resolve this problem that could be very explosive unless resolved. It cannot be resolved except in the context of peace.

JOHN WALLACH: The Israelis, Your Majesty, are suggesting a couple of days ago, that under the Johnston Plan, I think they have indeed received more water than they were allotted to, or they have stolen, if you want to use the word, more water. Has that been communicated to you that there is going to be an arrangement under which large quantities of water are restored to Jordan?

KING HUSSEIN: I certainly hope that we will receive our share and that this will be defined in the coming negotiations.

JOHN WALLACH: Also, if I could just ask you another question. I know you can't speak for the Syrian leadership, but from your talks in Damascus, do you have any sense of what the major problem is now for the Syrians? There seems to be, as you know, Secretary Christopher has put off his trip to the region because he was not convinced that it would produce progress on the Syrian-Israeli track. Do you have any thoughts about what may be required either from the Israelis or from the Syrians to try to produce progress?

KING HUSSEIN: My impression is that progress was made and that certainly reflects my impression of the Syrian position in that they would like to get on with it as rapidly as possible and arrive at a satisfactory conclusion to these talks. I think that positions were set out and there probably are starting positions at this stage but I hope that on both sides there will be an effort to achieve progress, and I hope that we will see that happening in the time ahead. It is not for me to comment on when the Secretary will visit but I think that further progress is expected before too long.

AMAL MUDALLALI: Your Majesty, on the question of Jerusalem it seems nobody is talking about Jerusalem anymore. Is Jerusalem going to be just a Palestinian-Israeli issue and especially that the Palestinians won't have any leverage in two years.

KING HUSSEIN: Not in the least, not in the least. Maybe you haven't been hearing us, I think that we've been talking about Jerusalem continuously. And, our feelings for Jerusalem have never changed, will never change. And again, the idea that we are trying to put across is that we should somehow find a way by which we can address the problem in terms of the holy sites, holy to the followers of the three great monotheistic religions, three great Abrahamic religions, to remove those away from the realm of politics and politicking. And, we recognise no sovereignty over these holy places, except to God.

We hope that in a state of peace these places will come to symbolise peace between the followers of three great religions. And as far as the rest is concerned, I believe 242 applies to that side of the equation and I'm sure that future negotiations, we understand, will (...).

HAMDI FOUAD: Your Majesty, if you permit me to ask you about Yemen.

KING HUSSEIN: Ask.

HAMDI FOUAD: It's another subject, but still, you have a position and your position is very well known concerning the (...) there is actual war and there is no ceasefire. What is the Jordanian position, what is your position, Your Majesty, on this problem?

KING HUSSEIN: Sir, our position is we (...) over seeing the situation in Yemen develop to the point of war and military action. We regret the losses, those who have been lost in the ongoing struggle, and those who have suffered and those who continue to face a threat within Yemen. We have tried our utmost to help all Yemenis achieve an understanding of how the state of Yemen would be (...) in the future and we have reached an agreement which they ratified, representatives of both schools of political thought and representatives of all the people of Yemen, in Amman. Unfortunately, it didn't last long and the situation has erupted. Actually it will be our wish and hope that the unity of Yemen could be maintained. But I am very concerned and very, very worried that even that might be in jeopardy at this stage. I hope somehow that the situation will improve. And that what is in the interest of Yemen will be in the forefront of the thoughts of all concerned.

GEORGE TAMERLANI: Your Majesty, you have said that, getting back to the face-to-face leadership with the Israeli leadership, you have said that you must wait, or when the time is right, and the Israeli leadership has used similar language. What is the sequence of provisional agreements on the various issues that must be achieved before the time is right for a face-to-face meeting, or is it necessary to wait until all areas are agreed?

KING HUSSEIN: Sir, let me put it another way. I think that it is fair to describe the situation in the following way. We are negotiating. Negotiations are taking place. Negotiations are going to take place. So whether they are at my level and the prime minister, or the level of our representatives at this stage, is one and the same thing. The question of exactly when we meet, hopefully we will see some progress before that happens, but the fact that we haven't met publicly doesn't mean that the efforts of our colleagues and those who represent both countries are not a reflection of the spirit and the desire to negotiate between the two as is happening.

MOHAMMAD WAHBY: Your Majesty, regarding the venue of such conference, such a meeting with the Israelis, will it also be in the region, just like the other talks?

KING HUSSEIN: It could be, why not?

MOHAMMAD WAHBY: It could be in the region?

KING HUSSEIN: Yes.

Q: Your Majesty, just to clear up one thing, are you drawing a distinction between the starting of negotiations with the Israelis and the signing of the agreement? Because sometimes we are putting them together.

KING HUSSEIN: I think, sir, that this is a problem in the minds of many. I mean, obviously, it's a very important

moment, and we are starting serious negotiations at this stage. Hopefully with goodwill and with the determination to achieve progress we will resolve all problems. That doesn't mean we have ratified peace yet. But when we reach satisfaction of all the problems, and we have resolved all these problems, then obviously we will be at the state where the crowning achievement, as I've said time and again, is a peace treaty.

Q: Your Majesty, have you detected any flexibility in the American position?

KING HUSSEIN: I do not care to comment on that, sir. Anything that I would say would be out of place.



# Weekender

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Published Every Thursday

A

## Jordan's breakdancers could be the nucleus of a modern theatre

By Mohammad Mashariqah

Ziyad Kheir Abbadi, 23, a worker in an iron cast plant who lives in Jofeh district of Amman, was among a group of dancers interviewed this week in order to throw some light on their artistic and social life.

**Question:** Where did you learn the breakdance?

**Answer:** On the streets. I have learnt some of the movements from television shows but when some of my neighbours, who have just returned from Kuwait, saw me dance, they brought me some new breakdance songs and music and we all started training on the pavements of the streets and on the roofs and in the alleys.

Indeed we have become stars of Jabal Jofeh (a district in east Amman) and we are often called to breakdance at friends' parties and people are amazed by our fast movements and skill.

But after each show people mistreat us and some of the audience accuse us of being effeminate in nature and report us to our parents who take away our special fancy dresses in which we dance and the tapes.

**Q:** Where did you get these costumes for the dance?

**A:** From the old clothes souq (market) downtown. But our attire looks far better than the rich Shmeisani youths who buy their wear from Europe.

**Q:** Is there any link between the breakdancers of Jabal Jofeh and those of Shmeisani?

**A:** We always visit the youths of Shmeisani (one of Amman's western fashionable districts) and we exchange expertise with them.



Two Jofeh's breakdancers in action

**Q:** Do they ever visit Jofeh?

**A:** Never. Because if they come in their fancy cars and outfits they would create a problem for the Jofeh people who could stone them.

**Q:** Who causes problems for you and your friends?

**A:** Residents and the police. Because they claim dancing is prohibited in the streets. But in Shmeisani it is a different matter because there dancers are not mistreated or harassed or molested.

However we feel that we perform better than the Shmeisani dancers because we always bring in new movements. But it must be stressed that not only are they permitted to dance on the streets but they also are financially capable of buying the outfits and the tapes they like.

In contrast most of Jofeh people have no videos or cassette recorders.

**Q:** Do you ever read books and newspapers?

**A:** Frankly no.

**Q:** Do you listen in to radio programmes?

**A:** Only the foreign programme because it is of benefit for us.

### AMMAN CULTURAL PULSE

We enjoy listening to new kinds of music or songs.

**Q:** Do you know the name of the prime minister of Jordan or the minister of culture?

**A:** I do not know because I never listen to news.

**Q:** Why do you put on dark glasses, do you imitate famous American singers?

**A:** No, I put on the glasses because I suffer from a problem in my left eye resulting from an accident at work and I do not have sufficient money to pay the cost of an operation that could restore my sight.

Another breakdancer was 20-year-old Mahmoud Fataftah, a house painter who also lives in Jofeh.

**Q:** Why did you choose this kind of dancing?

**A:** I really don't know. Perhaps because I like sports and exercises. I practice breakdancing four hours a day and it costs me nothing. I like to be distinguished and to show off my skills to others and draw young girls' attention. I am overwhelmed with joy when groups of youth surround me as I dance in our district and when the girls watch me from their windows to the tunes of the rather boisterous type of breakdance music.

**Q:** What do your parents and acquaintances say about this?

**A:** My parents are totally against my dancing. My father says that dancing is for women or practiced by disorderly youths while my mother says: "What would I tell people about my son's job or hobby. Shall I say

that he is a dancer."

Shopkeepers often kick us out of their stores and the local police consider us a problem for the district in view of our unusual outfits.

**Q:** Which community welcomes your acts?

**A:** People ask us to dance at parties in Shmeisani or Abdoun districts whenever we visit our friends there, where we can freely dance on the pavements.

Once we have danced in Maimeh village in the southern Tafileh district where the local residents are simple people who welcomed us to dance in their weddings, considering the breakdance as a kind of physical training and very useful for the body.

But we get most of our support and encouragement from the other youths of our district in Jofeh, who have a great desire to learn the movements despite their parents' strong opposition.

Twenty-two-year-old Ahmad Bakri, who was born in Jofeh where he also lives, says: "Since we live in a democratic country I demand that I be given the freedom to dance in public places, gardens and streets.

We do not harm anybody with our hobby nor do we offend public taste. I believe that Jordan is the only country that prohibits dancing in public places. I believe that the media, particularly television, is responsible for the public's lack of knowledge about the breakdance which, in my view, is one of the creative arts like the ballet.

It is because the public is misinformed about this art that many people consider us to be lunatics. This attitude has cost me my fiancee because her parents turned against me and my dancing despite the fact that I am quite eligible for marriage.

We are not drunkards or drug addicts and we do not smoke or drink alcohol. Indeed our breakdance is a sublime art which enables us to better control our body and our desires and our emotions. Breakdance made it difficult for us to be provoked and helped us to steer clearly of any quarrels with other people.

In this context, I would like to put forth the following remarks:

1 — These are samples of a group of young people in our midst who are being overlooked and who themselves are not concerned with the surrounding community's problems. They are free of any thought about politics, development or pluralism and democracy which they consider as an umbrella for them to act at will.

For this reason, they took to the streets and the pavements where they hope to establish an identity for themselves because the slow sentimental songs and music no more appeal to them and do not help them win popularity as they lack real creativity.



One of Jabal Jofeh's 'stars' dances in an Amman park

2 — The fact that the breakdancers live in poor districts as well as rich districts indicates that this art is no more confined to the wealthy. I suggest that this phenomenon be well studied by the local community in the course of helping to meet the demands of the youth to count for something in society.

According to Salma Al Khalidi, a social worker employed by the Ministry of Education in the field of special education, the past four years have witnessed changes in social habits in Jordan and these changes could well cause an imbalance within the framework of the Jordanian society. She cites foreign television telecasts as one source of influencing the Jordanian society on the one hand and habits brought back to Jordan by the returning expatriates from the Gulf as another.

3 — We need to reexamine this breakdance phenomenon and I suggest that our theatres absorb this type of art which is expressed through sheer physical movements reflecting high-level physical fitness.

Modern theatre depends on the language of the body more than the verbal dialogue and indeed these dancers could well constitute the nucleus of a modern theatre in Jordan once they have gained reasonable sponsorship and support.

## Environment as seen by poets

### Poetry For The Earth

Edited by Sara Dunn and Alan Scholefield

Published by Fawcett Columbine

Poetry For The Earth is a book about natural environment seen from the eyes of poetry not of science.

"Looking at a poetic landscape each so individual, described from varying cultural stances by both women and men is one route towards some understanding of the differing psychologies of environmentalism", as editor Sara Dunn puts it. Dunn and co-editor Alan Scholefield took the hard path of selecting, collecting and compiling poems from the four corners of the Earth; from ancient times to the present.

Though environment had been one of the major concerns of man it has, in recent years, attained greater significance especially from the scientific point of view because of the real dangers involved which no doubt affect and shall continue to affect life on this

planet in the future if not in the very near future. Extensive research was carried out and conferences and symposiums have been held where solutions were proposed and decisions for preserving Earth's environment were taken, yet these were rigid scientific discussions — meant for purely scientific circles — which didn't have a direct influence on the broad public.

"One of our personal aims in putting together this anthology is to find some comfort in a subject which has become, at times, unbearably bleak," Dunn writes in her introduction of the book. "The doom-laden prognostications which, though hardly new, have achieved such currency in the late 1980s and 1990s have a numbing effect and often seem counter-productive inducing a sort of environmental compassion — fatigue."

The idea of bringing nature in its glamour to the general public's attention specifically at this time is in itself an inventive work since poetry touches the hearts

### BOOK REVIEWS

of people everywhere. This had always been like that and most probably shall always be so; and though everyone with eyes is able to see his/her surrounding or natural ambient it takes a poet's eye to grasp the details and unseen interrelations between different aspects of nature and to put that into one comprehensive and beautiful picture for all to see and love. One can see ones environment better through verses — hence the role of poetry in stirring peoples' spirits to preserve their environment becomes invaluable and indispensable and hence the importance and value of this book which is unique in its subject and aim. The editors of Poetry For The Earth took good care of covering a wide and diversified issue through a variety of topics. They followed an interesting classification of the book's contents. They didn't apply the traditional alphabetical order of names of poets or of poems; they rather chose to make a division of subjects according to "emotional" states i.e. psychological stances of poets vis-a-vis nature and natural objects. There are poems that celebrate nature:

The sky's height stirs me.  
The strong wind blows through my mind.  
It carries me with it,  
So I shake with joy  
(Uvanuk)

There are poems that mourn the "loss" of nature:  
Even where we mean  
To mend her we end her  
When we hew or delve  
(Hopkins)

One can trace common human experiences with nature in different eras and among different people. This is clearly seen in ancient poems as well as in medieval ones, during the renaissance and in contemporary writing. Love for nature, yearning for unspoiled landscape and resentment for damage done to environment are subjects that had been cherished by poets of the past and those of modern times.

Listen to the Roman poet, Virgil's Pastoral:

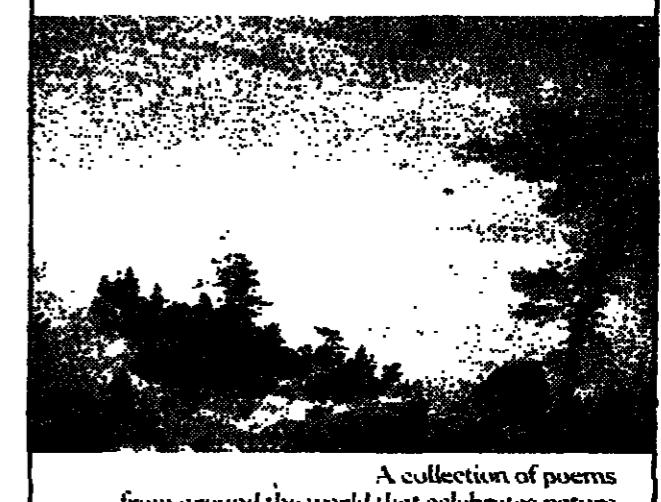
Behold! You bordering fence of sallow-trees  
Is fraught with flowers; the flowers are fraught with bees:

The busy bees, with a soft murmuring strain,  
Invite to gentle sleep the labouring swain.  
Or hear Chaucer's The Parliament Of Fowls  
A gardyn ful of blosity bowers  
Upon a ryver, in a grene mede,  
There as swetnesse evermore now is,  
With flours white, blewe, yelwe and rede  
Then the following verses from Shelley's Epipsyphion (Renaissance Poet)

The blue Aegean girds this chosen home.  
With ever-changing sound and light and foam,  
Kissing the sifted sands and caverns hoar;  
And all the winds wandering along the shore  
Undulate with undulating tide

The same is found in modern poems.  
Read Margaret Walker's My Mississippi Spring  
My heart warms under snow;  
Flowers with forsythia,  
Japonica blooms, flowering quince,  
Bridal wreath, blood root and violet;  
Yellow running vine

## POETRY FOR THE EARTH



A collection of poems from around the world that celebrates nature

Edited by Sara Dunn with Alan Scholefield

Interestingly the book includes works of three famous Arab poets. The Andalusian poet of the eleventh century Abdullah Ibn Al Simak, whose poem, The Garden, is a fine piece of the sensitivity he expresses towards nature and the Andalusian environment. The garden of green hillocks Dresses up for visitors In the most beautiful colours As if a young woman's dowry Were spread out Glittering with gold necklaces Ahmad Abdul Mu'ti Hijazi a contemporary from Egypt laments the days of innocence: The picture is still clear But the child who drew it Has been crushed by the passages of days

The Palestinian poet Mahmoud Darwish, better known for his celebration and exultation of Palestine, is the third Arab poet translated in this collection.

Although much more impressive in its original, the following lines still portray the depth of his attachment to nature.

We are entitled to love the end of this autumn and ask Is there room for another autumn in the field to rest our bodies like coal?

An autumn lowering its leaves like gold. I wish we were fig leaves.

I wish we were an abandoned plant To witness the change of seasons. I wish we didn't say goodbye.

To the south of the eye so as to ask what Our fathers had asked when they flew on the tip of the spear.

Muhammad Daoud Tahboub

Struggle And Survival In The Modern Middle East  
Edited by Edmund Burke, III.  
Illustrated. 400 pages. \$16. University Of California Press: 1993.

Struggle And Survival In The Modern Middle East is history in a special form — that of social biography. The 25 separate essays included in the book sketch the lives of as many individuals in over a dozen Middle East countries. The focus is not so much on their thoughts or psychological makeup, as on how they coped with the particular socioeconomic, cultural and political environment into which they were thrown by life itself.

The biographical approach is intended to bridge the gap between social theory and empirical research. The book does not elaborate much on the usual headlines of Middle East history — imperialism, nationalism and modernisation — which editor Edmund Burke sees as abstractions. Instead, it sets out to chronicle "how events were actually experienced by most people" (page IX).

The great achievement of this book lies in making history come alive. Many of the narratives can be read with the ease and enjoyment of a good novel. But whether the text truly reflects how most people experienced events is another question altogether, for a biographical approach is by nature selective. It is left to the reader to judge whether the individuals chosen as subjects of the essays are truly representative of the majority. In some cases, they most probably are; in others, this is a dubious claim.

Diversity is the name of the game in Struggle And Survival In The Modern Middle East. The area is broadly defined, encompassing Iran and Afghanistan, as well as the Arab countries of the Mashreq and Maghreb. The timeframe stretches back to the mid-19th century, when the persons described in Precolonial Lives — the first section of the book — were born. It carries us up to the present, for some of those interviewed are still living.

Sally Bland

## The more the merrier

By Jean-Claude Elias

Business is a healthy thing. It contributes to the quality of the products and services. The obvious winner of such a consumer.

Private companies selling personal and related products in Jordan has up from a mere 10 in 1980. How is the computer market?

The population is estimated at 3.5 million, the part of this population that is in business is only about 0.5 million. There is one PC company (or shop) for every 10,000 people.

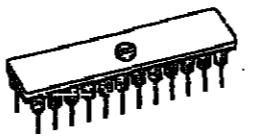
Though the comparison is not worth noting that there are only 100 computer companies in the Kingdom.

Computer distributors do not provide any service and assistance. They are offered a limited guarantee on the part of companies that do provide support, at both hardware and software levels.

A very sophisticated machine the PC is a computer product. Some 12-year-olds in the computer more than their parents use, professional service and specialised companies is therefore at least, not as important as for

such a large number of PC users available virtually all brands,

## chip talk



options and accessories in the Jordanian market. Tough competition is keeping prices very low and vendors must rely on volume sales to make an acceptable profit.

The Jordan Computer Society accepts both companies and individuals as members. They have to fulfill strict conditions in order to be accepted. Only one company in five has so far been accepted. The society was founded to improve communications at all levels: vendors-vendors, vendors-users, vendors-government and others.

If the number of PC companies per capita is an indicator of progress and prosperity, then Jordan is very well placed. It is the only Arab country (apart from Bahrain) that has developed software products that have become international standards.

If there are any negative side effects of the presence of a large number of PC distributors in Jordan, they must be very minor. In the long run, the situation can only develop as a very positive aspect of the country's progress.

## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

By Mohammad A. Shuaib

### GOOD MORNING

#### Inspiring Advice

...are suffering cannot...  
people who...  
isn't you...  
said that sometimes telling the...  
of hostility...  
do you feel inferior without your...

do when you're bored:  
slovers come and go.  
ing well.  
nsi carefully.

that people who are bored are...  
re invariably more exciting than  
if the real thing comes remotely  
ed for you. Sometimes.  
but is life itself.

#### DOCTOR: "Where is he?"

MRS. JAMES: "He died this morning!"



#### HOBBIES

##### Keeping pets

**DOGS:** You can buy a puppy from a friend whose dog has a litter, from advertisements in the newspapers, from a dog's home or from a pet shop. But do not buy a puppy on impulse. First of all decide the kind of dog you want. Bear in mind how large it will grow. It is no good to buy an appealing puppy with, say, a retriever in its ancestry, if you give it all the daily walks and exercise, it will need in a few months' time. Similarly, do not buy a sad-looking puppy you feel sorry for — be sensible and buy a lively one with a cold wet nose and alert clear eyes, like the Golden Cocker Spaniel opposite.

Puppies need a basket to sleep in out of draughts. It is best to have one with sides, raised off the ground. Put an old blanket inside for bedding. Other things you will need are a collar and lead, and separate bowls for its food and water. Other necessary items are a bath and especially if it is a long-haired puppy, a brush to keep his coat shining.

When you buy your puppy it will not be trained, especially where toilet habits are concerned, and you must be very patient, spreading newspapers for it placing it on them whenever it shows signs of messiness. Eventually will be able to take it outside. Encourage it with kind words, which it will quickly recognise.

At first your puppy will require five meals a day, including plenty of moist food and occasional meat. At three months it should have three meals a day, with more meat. Always make sure it has plenty of fresh water.



#### BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

- (1) What are the chief differences between plants and animals?
- (2) What is the average life of: an ant, a camel, a cat, a lion, a rabbit, a sheep, a whale and a mouse?
- (3) How are insects attracted to plants?
- (4) Why does a flower, like a pansy, turn its face towards the sun?
- (5) What animals are the following:
  - a- King of the beasts.
  - b- The king of the birds.
  - c- The lion's provider.
  - d- The light of the forest.



#### PUZZLES

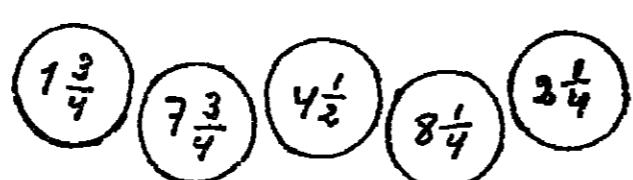
##### (A) WHAT IS IT?

1. What saw never saw?
2. What bow is never tied?
3. What hole is never mended?



##### (B) FRACTIONS

Which two fractions, when combined, will total the same as the remaining three?



## Classroom procedures and playing favourites

By E. Yaghi

Teaching is not only a science, it is also an art, and it involves more than just giving information. How to teach is almost as important as what to teach and the teacher, whether professor or instructor at a lower stage of learning, must meet the challenges presented by students, texts and classrooms. Classrooms must constitute a setting for learning and instructors must, first of all, have priorities and objectives for each lesson as well as come prepared. Traditional classroom procedure is for the teacher to ask questions to which he already knows the answers for pupils then to respond without creating new ideas. But teachers should not be the sole authority of knowledge nor should the student be unable to express his opinions or formulate creative and decisive ideas. If the teacher finds that an activity he has chosen does not suit or interest his class, then he should abandon it and move onward to something else. Once the class is over, the teacher should then ask himself if he achieved the objectives he intended and whether he covered the material he wanted.

Discipline, often a problem, can cause concern to the teaching staff. It is essential to a good learning environment as lack of order leads to confusion, hampers instruction and proves distracting. Thus, the teacher should arrange the seating of his class either in a semi-circle if smaller, or at least insist that the students are dispersed in the front rows, leaving the back benches empty unless the number of pupils happens to be greater. Though discipline is essential, the atmosphere in a classroom must be one that is conducive to learning and the instructor must maintain firmness, yet create a climate where friendliness and democracy prevail. Teachers should not do more than 25 per cent of the talking in class and the remaining 75 per cent should be done by pupils so that they have an opportunity to express themselves. Surprisingly, the student does not only learn from the teacher, but much is gained from fellow students and if the instructor gives himself half a chance, he will find that he too, has much to learn from his students. On this voyage of discovery, with the teacher more a guide than a commander, he will find that each student, especially the inquisitive young, have an inherent capacity to be brilliant in their own way. No teacher should be a dictator and stand in front of the class like the only one who knows anything about not only academic subjects but life in general. And most important, attention should be maintained throughout the lesson and pupils kept on their toes by constant stimulation and incentives to arouse interest. There is nothing more boring than a captain who talks 99 per cent of the allotted time, who allows no room for creative questions and whose word is law or part of the Ten Commandments. There must be discussions, debates, panel talks and

group-oriented workshops which promote coordinated activities. It is important for the teacher to be familiar with the attitudes and abilities of each student in order to organise teams into homogeneous groups.

Always, maximum participation should be sought and in any general discussion, every pupil should feel free to engage in it. Also, pupils should feel that taking part in classroom discussions is an important part of the day's lesson and any discussion should not be limited to a few students who may tend to dominate discourse. Some pupils try to gain the attention and praise of their instructors by holding the floor and digressing the topic concerned into a two-way dialogue in which the teacher is transfixed and other students become totally peeved and/or bored with the whole class.

This leads us to the notorious and unforgivable crime of favoritism. Some instructors form the obnoxious habit of playing favourites on the basis of ethnic, religious, or social grounds. Some pupils are always teacher's pet because their father or mother teaches in the same department and holds a senior position and therefore the child demands grades far higher than he/she deserves. I have often overheard such a pupil boast: "Oh, I didn't study a bit and I'm so afraid to take the exam!" Where in actuality, a high mark is earned because of the status of his/her father or mother. This is detrimental to the rest of the class, especially to those who work hard for grades but receive lower marks than the teacher's pet. Teacher's pet can be also based on ethnic or tribal relations where they are sometimes given better marks to keep up the prestige of the family name. Outsiders are looked down upon and never given a chance to compete for higher marks. Finally, the diplomatic student weaves his or her way into the instructor's good humour and is rewarded by higher marks. This sometimes happens with female students who flatter their professors or simply bat their beautiful eyes in coy ways and thus gain ten immediate points.

But playing favourites is bad for both teachers and students. For the student who gets marks because of either ethnic or class status or lip service, in the end he or she will hold a diploma that is meaningless. And as for the instructor, how terrible to prejudge any student's performance on a biased attitude. Favoritism, wherever it is practiced, is harmful to the diligent and earnest student or even employee because instead of initiative and hard work false pretenses are rewarded. Often, in many institutions, creativity, curiosity and self-initiative are destroyed in favour of flattery, social status, or tribal or family name. Each person's value must be determined not by social, ethnic or tribal prejudices but by his/her output, attitude, effort and ability. Playing favourites is unfair and a flagrant violation of the ethics of teaching.

## JTV CHANNEL 2

### WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday, June 23

8:30 Da Beat's On

9:15 Bony

Bony's case is that of a dead surfer found washed up on the beach. His suspicions centre around another surfer and a friend — a pretty young woman.

10:00 News In English

10:15 Murder She Wrote  
Dead Letter

A store owner dies in a fire a day after he receives a threatening letter.

Friday, June 24

8:00 Sixty Minutes

10:00 News In English

10:15 Emilie

Emilie is an ambitious young girl whose progressive ideas and beliefs stand contrary to her father's old-fashioned ways. Her struggle to win his acceptance and support starts in a small school, where she teaches the young.

Saturday, June 25

7:25 World Cup Soccer Match  
Saudi Arabia Vs. Morocco

9:20 Daily World Cup Summary

10:00 News In English

10:15 Reasonable Doubts

Making Dirt Stick

Even after delaying the case for three long years, Tess awaits the findings of the two main witnesses in a robbery and a murder case.

Sunday, June 26

7:25 World Cup Soccer Match  
Bulgaria Vs. Greece

9:30 You Bet Your Life

10:00 News In English

10:15 House Of Elliot

Agnes betrays the Elliott sisters' trust by divulging secrets to a newspaper man... While Evie and

Alexander get closer.

11:05 World Cup Soccer Match  
Switzerland Vs. Colombia

Monday, June 27

8:30 The Nanny

The Nanny-In-Law  
Nanny finds herself face to face with Mr. Sheffield's old nanny.

9:10 Documentary — The Climate Change

10:00 News In English  
10:15 G.P.  
Loose Ends

William, the clinic's director, is surprised by his ex-wife's visit. He finds out about the bad news regarding their son-in-law.

11:05 World Cup Soccer Match

Bolivia Vs. Spain

Tuesday, June 28

7:25 World Cup Soccer Match

Italy Vs. Mexico

9:20 Daily World Cup Summary

10:00 News In English

10:15 The Cape Rebel

11:05 World Cup Soccer Match

Brazil Vs. Sweden

Wednesday, June 29

7:25 World Cup Soccer Match

Morocco Vs. Netherlands

9:20 Daily World Cup Summary

10:00 News In English

10:15 Poldark

Ross has always been the man who harbours the society's victims, but now he himself gets involved with some illegal deals.

11:05 World Cup Soccer Match

Ireland Vs. Norway

July 1 is 1st

## Artists, patrons differ on impact of Iraqi painters

By Ian Atalla

Special to the Jordan Times

**YIMAN** — It does not take an expert observer of local art to perceive that over the recent years following the Gulf war, Iraqi artists have begun to dominate the fine arts scene in Jordan. A quick once-over of brochures, exhibitions at the Kingdom's art galleries will quickly confirm gallery owners' estimates that Iraqi artists represent over half of those exhibiting works these days at various locations in Jordan.

One gallery owner who preferred anonymity said, "Jordanian artists are becoming a minority in our own country... as Iraqi artists continue to come in hundreds."

But as Iraqi artists continue to flock to Jordan to exhibit or stay on permanently — apparently seeking a refuge from a wave of poverty which has engulfed the artistic community in their homeland due to United Nations economic sanctions — is their exodus to Jordan a blessing or a curse for Jordan's native artists? Both artists and gallery patrons appear to be divided on the answer to that question.

The gallery owner who would not be named said that the Iraqis "have spoiled the market for Jordanian artists."

Initially, said the owner, members of Jordan's arts community had strongly sympathised with their Iraqi counterparts due to the financial hardships and sufferings they faced in Iraq. "But now, many Jordanian artists cannot stand to hear of Iraqi artists anymore."

Jordanian artist Suha Shoman sharply disagreed. "We should not have the reaction that other artists are intruders stealing our livelihood," she said. "This is looking at the problem with short-term vision."

"The school of art in Iraq is one of the oldest in the Arab World, while we in Jordan are a young artistic community," she said. "We have much to learn from them and others."

Artistic achievement and advancement can only be nourished by interchange and dialogue between different countries and cultures, Ms. Shoman maintained. Just as the French, who boast one of the world's finest artistic communities, had benefitted through exchange with Spanish artists such as Picasso, Dali and Miro, who came to France after World War II, and as the Iraqis and the Egyptians had learned from European art teachers, she said, now in turn "the Iraqis have opened new horizons for us, and if a Jordanian artist is good he shouldn't worry. It is a challenge. The important thing is the quality of the art."

The Iraqi artists who came to Jordan include some of the most prominent in Iraq, said Samia Zara, another Jordanian artist. "They have exposed us to contemporary directions, and really activated the art community here."

In concluding her defence of the Iraqi artists, Ms. Shoman stated her belief that "art knows no boundaries, and to judge an artist by his nationality is the opposite of what is art."

However, the gallery owner said the Iraqi artists are

hurting Jordanian artists by engaging in "cut-rate selling." Many of them, desperate for hard currency, are resorting to selling their works in Jordan at 10 to 20 per cent of their real value, or less, the owner said. "They aren't in their own country, so they don't have to worry about their reputation as the Jordanian artists do."

"And if you can buy a nice painting for only JD 10 to JD 20, why go to a Jordanian artist and buy a work of similar quality for JD 100 or more?"

Another gallery director who would also not be named said that he bore the Iraqi artists no ill will and only felt pity for their situation.

"Many were among the most famous of their time in Iraq before the war ruined things for them," the director said. "But now they are forced to come here and sell their works for little or nothing simply to feed themselves."

He concluded by saying that he was distressed that "something as innocent as art must fall prey to politics."

Iraqi artists are definitely not flocking to Amman because there are large profits to be had here, said Farouq Lambaz, Jordanian artist and director of the Alia Art Gallery. Rather, he said, Jordan is the only refuge open to them due to the current economic and political circumstances as the Iraqi dinar continues to crumble and no other Arab country besides Jordan is open to them.

"This rush of Iraqi artists — I don't think it is

because Jordan has high sales," Mr. Lambaz said. "It is a limited market, and no gallery is making a profit here."

Nuha Batchone, owner of the Gallery for Arts and Antiquities, agreed. Despite the opening of a large number of new galleries in Jordan over the last few years, she said, "the art market here is not profitable at all, and it is more difficult than ever before. As a gallery owner, it is a real challenge just to make both ends meet."

As for how to improve constricting circumstances for native Jordanian artists, one gallery director discounted blaming the Iraqi artists and focused the responsibility on the Jordanian public itself.

Jordanian artists do not meet enough care and respect from their own public, he said, "although the quality of work of many Jordanian artists can be compared to international standards."

"Collectors here sometimes prefer the works of any foreign artist to Jordanians, although the public in most other countries would choose to buy their own artists' work before those of others."

Mr. Lambaz felt that just as artists in Europe and the United States receive badly needed aid and support programmes from the public sector of their countries, "someone in the Ministry of Culture must develop programmes for supporting the arts here."

Another gallery owner asked: "What can Jordanian artists do when their own community doesn't support them?"

## Mother Russia beckons for 70-year-old maestro

By Stephane Bentura  
Agence France Presse

**WASHINGTON** — World-renowned cellist and outspoken defender of democracy Mstislav Rostropovich is leaving Washington's biggest theater after a farewell concert, possibly to return to his much-changed homeland.

"After 70 years, you see how I act. If I turn, I will go to St. Petersburg, my heart is there," the 67-year-old Russian musician said in interview in his office at the Kennedy Arts Center, where he conducts the National Symphony Orchestra.

On June 17, the orchestra which welcomed him years ago will host a farewell concert to Rostropovich, who played a major role in making the Washington symphony one of the best in the United States. "When they deprived me of my homeland, I ended somewhere I could call my own, a place that I could make the centre of my life," said Mr. Rostropovich, who taught in a Moscow conservatory until October 1974 when he was expelled and stripped



Mstislav Rostropovich

of his Soviet citizenship for defending dissident writer Alexander Solzhenitsyn.

Barred from returning to Moscow, Mr. Rostropovich and his wife soprano Galina Vishnevskaya agreed to come to Washington where he would direct the National Symphony.

"It was very important to feel at home and the more than 100 people in the orchestra became a huge family," he said.

He says it was the orchestra's poor condition that attracted him.

"One lives by creating things, it is very important," he said. "The orchestra has become one of the best in the United

States and has allowed me to understand America and to grow not only as a musician but also as a resident of this country."

Unlike Mr. Solzhenitsyn — to whom he is related — who tried to avoid becoming an American during his 18 years in exile in Vermont, Mr. Rostropovich speaks English perfectly and has scheduled concerts here as late as September 1997.

He has promised concerts in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Boston and in France and Italy for next season.

Mr. Rostropovich hailed Mr. Solzhenitsyn's return to Russia, where he wrote his masterpiece, including *The Gulag*

Archipelago. "It is one of the happiest events of my life," he said.

The two men spent time together while living in the United States, with Mr. Rostropovich stopping by Mr. Solzhenitsyn's Vermont refuge between concerts for long talks about their homeland.

But if he is pleased that the 75-year-old writer returned home, Mr. Rostropovich said that he is more useful in the West from where he has made various trips into Russia in 1991 and 1993 to back a tottering democracy.

His foundation for Russian children has already collected \$4 million in donations in the form of

medicines and medical equipment. Last week, he gave two concerts in St. Petersburg to raise money to build 100 homes for Russian troops being withdrawn from the Baltics.

"They live in terrible conditions. These are the officers who won the war against fascism. I am in their debt," he said.

One thing he is worried about is the Russian mafia, which Mr. Rostropovich said in gaining strength.

"It's a question of time. The mafia is getting stronger and stronger, and it must be stopped now," he said.

Lively and warm, the Moscow-bred musician is in perfect health. But, he says, "I want to do only things that are useful to me because I don't know how many years God will give me."

"My country is always there and remains there," said Mr. Rostropovich, who has bought a country home and apartment in Moscow and is in the process of buying a home in St. Petersburg. And while his two daughters married an Italian and a Frenchman, their "five children have Russian names," he says softly.

## Woodstock at 25 — profit over peace

By Jacques Guillou  
Agence France Presse

**NEW YORK** — Some 30 groups and musicians will celebrate the 25th anniversary of Woodstock this August, but this time around a drug-free \$30-million production will replace the spontaneous three days of peace and love in 1969.

Unlike the first celebration — considered the high-water mark of the hippie movement and rock music — narcotics and alcohol are strictly prohibited from the festival's grounds.

Woodstock drew some 40 groups and musicians ranging from electric guitar innovator Jimi Hendrix to the British rock band The Who.

In 1969, from Aug. 15 to 18, roughly 500,000 people streamed to a rural upstate New York farm, who has bought a country home and apartment in Moscow and is in the process of buying a home in St. Petersburg. And while his two daughters married an Italian and a Frenchman, their "five children have Russian names," he says softly.

The concert unfolded in joyous anarchy, with massive traffic jams, loads of hashish, a little LSD, lots of love, food and service shortages, but no violence. Several babies were born during the festival and others were believed conceived during the three days.

But the concert is not a sure bet to make money. Entrance costs are too stiff for many people and the festival is scheduled for the same weekend that the Rolling Stones play outside New York City.

What's more, a separate commemorative concert will take place on the same site as the original Woodstock in Bethel, New York.

Arranged by Sid Bernstein, the organiser of the first Beatles concert in the United States, the Bethel Concert has already signed up Woodstock veteran a blues guitarist Richie Havens. The concert is expected to draw some 80,000 people.

Havens has become a strong supporter of this second show, which in spirit seems closer to the original. "What I want to back has nothing to do with what Michael Lang is putting together now," he said.

## 2 Korean films to vie in international festivals

### Manmubang to join Montreal event; To The Starry Island in Switzerland

By Byun Eun-mi

**MONTRÉAL** — Filmmakers were tickled by the news that Korean films have advanced into the main competitions of two international film festivals.

According to the Motion Picture Promotion Corp. of Korea, Um Jong-Sun's saga about the Korean War, *Manmubang*, will enter in the 18th

World Film Festival in Montreal, Canada, which will open Aug. 25 for a 12-day run.

Also, Park Kwang-

Soo's *To The Starry Island*

will compete for top honours against films from other countries at the Locarno International Film Festival which is due Aug. 4-14 in Switzerland.

Many Korean films have been shown at va-

rious film festivals around the world, but those showings have been mostly on a noncompetitive basis and it is a major achievement for Korean films to advance into main competitions.

The news came following Chang Sun-Woo's winning of the Alfred-Bauer Prize for new perspectives in cinematographic art for his enigmatic Buddhist

film Hwamkyung at the Berlin International Film Festival last February, which was amply celebrated here.

The entry of the two films into the competitions is a sign of the growing interest in Korean films abroad, said Yang Kyu-Shik, an official of the Motion Picture Promotion Corp., the government body promoting Korean

films.

As evidence, he said, "the chief executives of the two film festivals, Serge Losique of the Montreal and Marco Muller of the Locarno, have recently visited Seoul on separate occasions and selected the films themselves."

"The phenomenon is also influenced by the current worldwide trend that Oriental films are gaining more prominence," he added.

In particular, Park Kwang-Soo's entry into Locarno raises expectations here that it might duplicate the triumph that a maverick filmmaker, Bae Yong-Kyun, achieved five years ago. Bae's Buddhist film *Why Bodhi Dharma Went to the East?* won the best film award and four special awards at the competition.

Park, the forerunner of the new generation of Korean directors, has a previous association with the film festival. His social satire film *Chil-Su And Man-Su* was honoured with the third place award in the Youth Critics Award at the competition in 1989.

As for the Montreal festival, two Korean actresses, Shin Hye-Soo and Lee Hye-Sook won

the best actress awards in 1988 and 1991 respectively, and young talent Park Chong-Won's *Our Twisted Hero* captured the honour for the best producer in 1992.

Set during the Korean War (1950-53), the two films focus on how the fierce ideological conflict between the right and left wings affected the lives of ordinary Koreans. But, the paths the two films have trodden afterward were entirely different.

Park's *To The Starry Island* was much touted even before the film was made, largely owing to the reputation of the director. After its opening at local theatres last year-end with heavy publicity it won critical acclaim and scored a modest success at the box-office, even though it fell short of early expectations.

The film, however, was totally ignored at the just-ended Korean Grand Bell Film Competition, which prompted a protest by young filmmakers over the judges' favoritism of senior directors.

On the other hand, Um Jong-Sun's *Manmubang* drew little public attention until it won multinominations at the Grand Bell Awards. For the senior director who earned his

reputation with low-budget erotic films, it was the first time that his film has been nominated at the film competition. *Manmubang* refers to a shameless villain in Ko-

rean.

At the Grand Bell Film Awards, it won six prizes including the best actress award for Yun Chung-Hee — Korean News Review.



Park Kwang-Soo's *To The Starry Island* will compete at the Locarno International Film Festival.



Yun Chung-Hee plays a woman victimised by ideological conflict during the Korean War in Um Jong-Sun's *Manmubang*. The film will be entered in the main competition at the World Film Festival in Montreal.

## Want to help them? Think measles shots, not food

By Michelle Faul  
The Associated Press

**ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast** — When those skeletal waifs trapped in gory wars appear on the television screen, don't think only about food and U.N. peacekeepers. Think about vaccinations. Vitamin A and iodized salt.

That is the new and more pragmatic message from the world's leading ambassador for children, UNICEF Executive Director James Grant.

It is a lesson the U.N.

Children's Fund has learned from trying to cope with what it calls the world's "loud emergencies," the Bosnias, the Rwandas, the Angolas, that kill hundreds of children every day.

"We need to look at how to balance out the urgencies of the loud emergencies with the much larger dimensions of the silent emergencies," Mr. Grant said.

The principal killer of some 30,000 children whose lives are cut short every day is not war or

conflict-induced famine, but simple deficiency: Lack of cheap measles shot or a drink of salt, sugar and water to keep them from dying of diarrhoea.

In Africa, where about 10 per cent of the world's population suffers 30 per cent of its child deaths, many people have more children than they otherwise would so they can have backup children when some inevitably die.

"My father had 21 children and only nine of us survived," said Boubacari Ganame, a security guard

in Abidjan. "That's why we have to have lots of children, we're obliged to be sure that enough will live to bring in some money for the family and look after you when you're old."

Mr. Ganame, 47, has seven children ages 1 to 19. Though none has died, he still hopes for more. "I can't afford insurance or a pension. My children are my pension," he said.

Shifting the emphasis on aid — from intervention in a crisis to prevention of health problems — was a main topic of a

meeting of UNICEF Africa directors in early June. "Our post-mortem on Somalia shows 250,000 children died in 1992, but most of them died from measles, not hunger," Mr. Grant told the gathering, noting that half of all preschool Somali children died in 1992-93.

The United Nations spent more than \$1.5 billion on military aid and peacekeeping to ensure supplies were delivered, Mr. Grant said.

Less than a dollar a child spent earlier on vac-

cinations probably would have saved most of Somalia's child victims. A healthy, vaccinated child caught in a measles epidemic in a refugee camp will survive. Unvaccinated, malnourished children die.

"We've learned that we've got to give children the defence mechanism that will allow them to withstand an emergency situation," said Joe Christmas, UNICEF director in Angola. "Just making sure kids have Vitamin A could have saved 25 per cent of those

who died in Angola." Mr. Grant and Mr. Christmas said it was easier for developed nations to respond to dramatic, conflict situations than "silent emergencies" such as the daily need for a balanced diet.

"Many developed countries have an over-abundance of food stockpiles. As soon as there is a crisis and you show bloated bodies on TV, it's very easy for North America and Europe to divert their stocks to these countries," Mr. Christmas said. "That's because it's food."

Non-food aid is largely in money, which is much more difficult for them to give."

Mr. Christmas said the world should expect more emergencies since the collapse of cold war superpower rivalries that provided aid which stabilized many volatile regions.

"More countries are going to fall and we have to prepare ourselves for that, educate our donors against the world's belief that once a country has an emergency, there's going to be famine, so it's food that you send," he said.

## African children targeted in new bid to contain AIDS

By Elaine Ganley  
The Associated Press

**TUNIS** — The World Health Organisation (WHO) has appealed to African leaders to take special steps toward preventing AIDS among children and young people, the most vulnerable group in the chain of infection

that spreads the disease. "We are convinced that political commitment is indispensable," WHO Director-General Hiroshi Nakajima said before the Organisation of African Union's annual summit. Nearly two out of three

Africans who contract the HIV virus leading to AIDS are ages 15-24. About one million African children already have the disease, WHO estimates. By the year 2000, some four million African children will have been

orphaned by it.

Mr. Nakajima spoke to back a resolution on "AIDS And The Child In Africa," put on the summit agenda by host Tunisia. It urges action to protect children and women and would be carried out

by member states cooperating with the WHO.

The devastation kills the young and makes orphans of others. There is also "an emerging phenomenon" of children abandoned by HIV-positive mothers unable to cope and lacking community support, the re-

## Top Thai companies in wasteful AIDS discrimination

By Robert Eisele  
Reuter

**BANGKOK** — Some of Thailand's biggest companies in Thailand are practising a form of discrimination that is not only unethical but also is downright discriminatory. AIDS experts and virus carriers

banking, travel and retail sectors, as well as several state enterprises, had mandatory HIV-testing policies.

"In Thailand at the moment there are many forms of discrimination (against people with the HIV virus) but the biggest problem is in terms of employment," Mr. Ungpakorn told the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Thailand.

Three people infected with HIV told the club of their experiences.

"People with the virus have a lot of trouble finding work. When they apply for a job they are tested and then refused. It's the big factories and department stores that do it most," said a young

woman who identified herself by her nickname, Noo.

"The government has been very successful with its campaign to scare people about AIDS because everyone who knows I am HIV-positive is really frightened of me," said Noo's husband, who has managed to find a job with a small company which does not require HIV testing.

Thailand, where there are between 600,000 and 800,000 people infected with the HIV virus, has drawn up principles requiring that HIV testing be carried out only with the informed consent of the person being tested.

There are also broad principles against discrimination on the grounds

dread the mandatory test, she said.

"These practices are causing enormous hardships (and are) denying a large section of Thai society the right to work."

Supanya Lamsam, a director of the Thailand Business Coalition on AIDS, said the screening policies adopted by companies — both Thai and foreign — were an instinctive, if irrational, reaction to the AIDS crisis.

Hospitals conducting the tests often give the results straight to the companies, he said.

"This not only goes against medical ethics, it goes against the principle of confidentiality," he said.

Many people with HIV

have lost the will to look for work because they

panies, she said.

"It does not help, it does not keep HIV out of the workplace. Also it is very expensive, and lastly it does just not make business sense to do it," she said.

Companies which sacked employees or rejected applicants with HIV were turning away people who might remain productive for a decade or more.

"There are a lot of HIV-positive people out there who still can work, who can still be productive, who can still contribute to society and who can still look after their families and themselves," she said.

Ms. Supanya, whose organisation aims to help businesses cope with AIDS, added that more companies were becoming aware of the reality of the problem and adopting more constructive approaches.

One company which used to have an HIV screening programme but gave it up in favour of a staff education programme is Royal Garden Hotel Resorts Co. Ltd., which employs more than 600 people.

"We had a policy to check for HIV but we gave it up. Education is the most important thing," said Royal Garden Human Resources Director Choochart Maha-

wanus. "If someone has HIV they are physically the same as anyone else, they have the ability to do the same work for maybe five or ten years," he told Reuters.

"We educate our staff not to be frightened, that HIV transmission is not easy. If other companies really knew the situation (regarding HIV) they would not be so scared," he said.

Mr. Choochart said he knew of several major hotel groups which had abandoned HIV screening policies for staff and applicants.

## Something must be done about headaches, say doctors

BRUSSELS (AP) —

About 90 million Europeans are cursed with migraine or tension headaches which cost \$10 billion a year in treatment and time off from work, the European Headache Federation said here.

Yet research into headaches is seriously under-funded and is largely ignored in public sector budgets, the federation said at a press conference ahead of a three-day conference in the Belgian city of Liege which ended Friday.

Headache sufferers from Liege were invited into the conference to quiz the experts, said one of the organisers, Jean Schoenen, a neurologist at

the University of Liege.

Dieter Gerber,

a professor at the University Clinic of Kiel,

said there was a shortage of properly trained physicians and therapists in nearly all European countries.

"Poor diagnosis and inadequate or incorrect use of treatment methods are partly responsible for the fact that up to 20 per cent of all headache sufferers who see their physician take too many drugs," he said.

Marcia Wilkinson,

of the City of London Migraine Clinic said:

"Too many drugs are bad for you."

"She urged the importance of 'the right drug in the right form in the right dose at the right time.'

Speakers at the conference said the lack of research meant that diagnosis and treatment for headaches varied widely from country to country.

Thus, a patient in France might be told it was all right to drink high quality red wine, while in some other countries he might be advised to stick to white wine instead, Dr. Wilkinson said.

Doctors at the conference went out of their way to stress that a migraine — a blinding headache four times more prevalent in women than in men — was not a psychosomatic disease which could be treated by psychoanalysis.

They said it resulted

from an abnormality of the brain and that attacks could be triggered by a range of factors including cheese, chocolate, alcohol, stress, smoking or even changes in sleeping habits or the weather.

Dr. Gerber said the brain of a typical migraine sufferer was hyperactive but lacked the energy reserves necessary to sustain this activity. "It's like a Ferrari engine running out of petrol," he said.

One useful tip from the Headache Federation: Migraines typically occur not during but after a vacation, for example. So take a short, pre-holiday rest before setting off on a journey.

## ANSWERS

### BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

- The chief differences between plants and animals are:

(a) Most plants are stationary. On the other hand, most animals have ability to move from place to place.

(b) Animals have a limited scheme of growth, whereas plants have an unlimited one.

(c) Most plants have a structural framework composed chiefly of cellulose, a substance absent from the bodies of most animals.

(d) Animals are unable to manufacture foods and other complex substances from raw materials of air and soil, whereas plants can manufacture foods and other complex substances from them.

★ ★ ★ ★

### SOLUTIONS OF LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE



### CRYPTOGRAMS

1. TLECEH TWPPHAE BIHI KVCAEQ WVLEAH  
ITEWWP KBI QW KVCEA CQI YWA  
IQBYTHEQI QW TFLIIHL — By Earl Ireland

2. ZA WHYLO LY OPLUUMPH VZEY AFLUU  
JZO AL PMZO JXW VLYLULBCM KEAJ  
ALYBCM WACQD ZEDEZPOUH KY QJNMND.  
QLLU, MJT — By Rita Salvato

3. ZONE KLOCKS WENT ADOOZA ER DCKO  
ACSA, "EX KENOV UP KICK OCNDS WENY"  
PCWDQ, CRY E ICKO LUNXA — By Duane H. McGahey

4. JAIL YA BELOW FJB TJB SMOBU WJ  
GYAP ECEAYGYUBAW OLDCRYPT CAP WFB  
ICDEBTW TOFYAM — By Ed Hudspeth

### ANSWERS

- It is necessary for the proper growth of a plant that sun's rays should reach its leaves, etc. Some plants require sunlight comparatively more than others. So in order to get as much light as possible, they spread their leaves horizontally and their flowers face the sun. Moreover, several such plants require their fertilisation insects and butterflies which like to sit with their wings spread in the sun. That is why these flowers have their faces towards the sun.

5. (a) The lion.

(b) The eagle.

(c) The jackal.

(d) The firefly.

## PUZZLES

### (A) WHAT IS IT?

- The see-saw.
- The rainbow.
- The keyhole.

★ ★ ★ ★

### (B) FRACTIONS:

$$\frac{4}{5} + \frac{7}{9} = \frac{12}{14}$$

$$\frac{2}{5} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{8}{15} = \frac{12}{15}$$

Jay is 15

# Economy

JORDAN TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, JUNE 23-24, 1994 7

Financial Markets in co-operation with Cairo Amman Bank

U.S. Dollar in International Markets		
Currency	New York Close	Tokyo Close
Sterling Pound	1.5415	1.5397
Deutsche Mark	1.5043	1.5098
Swiss Franc	1.3425	1.3478
French Franc	5.4458	5.4735*
Japanese Yen	100.54	100.65
European Currency Unit	1.2040	1.1985*

USD per STG  
European Opening 1.5043 USD 1.5098

Euro/dollar interest rates \* Dates: 22/6/1994

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	4.0600	4.7500	4.4800	5.1200
Sterling Pound	4.7500	4.9300	5.1800	5.6800
Deutsche Mark	4.8100	4.8100	4.8100	5.0600
Swiss Franc	3.9300	4.1200	4.1500	4.5000
French Franc	5.5000	5.3700	5.5000	5.6700
Japanese Yen	1.8700	1.9800	2.1200	2.2500
European Currency Unit	5.8400	5.8700	5.9300	6.2500

Interest bid rate for amounts over \$1,000,000.00 U.S. Dollars. 1 month or equivalent.

Previous Metals		
Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	393.25	7.70
Silver	5.52	0.125

22 June

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6900	0.6920
Sterling Pound	1.0601	1.0654
Deutsche Mark	0.4505	0.4525
Swiss Franc	0.5111	0.5137
French Franc	0.1259	0.1265
Japanese Yen	0.6825	0.6759
Dutch Guilder	0.3840	0.3859

## Singapore airlines in \$10b deal with Boeing, Airbus

SINGAPORE (AFP) — Singapore Airlines (SIA) Wednesday announced orders for 52 Boeing and Airbus aircraft, including options, worth \$10.3 billion in one of the largest deals in civil aviation history.

SIA Chairman J.Y. Pillay said the purchase would help the airline, among the world's most successful, meet targeted growth of eight to 10 per cent a year over the next 10 years.

The current orders will provide the necessary capacity to fulfill that objective," an SIA statement said.

Mr. Pillay told a news conference the deal involved firm orders for 11 Boeing 747-400 and options for 11 others, together worth \$4.9 billion. There were firm orders for 10 Airbus A340-300E aircraft and options for 20 more worth \$5.4 billion. The B747-400 would be powered by Pratt & Whitney PW 4068 engines and the A340-300E by CFM56-5C4 engines. The \$10.3 billion total price tag includes spares and spare engines.

If all options are exercised, the Singapore carrier will have a fleet of 111 aircraft by the year 2003, when deliveries are to be completed. The airline now operates 63 aircraft.

"We expect to be able to self-finance the purchase of the firm orders and the aircraft under option, although we may occasionally have to resort to borrowing from the market for short periods," Mr. Pillay said.

Mr. Pillay said the industry had gone through some difficult periods and turbulence, but there were signs that it was now emerging from the worst times of depressed yields and lower load factors.

SIA managing director Cheong Choong Kong said the order "is an expression of our faith in the long-term health of the aviation industry and the promising future for SIA."

A spokesman for Airbus Industrie described the deal as "particularly important" because SIA was known to set standards by which other airlines are judged.

"The airline industry has been going through recession, so this sends an important message to the rest of the industry that the bad times, we hope, are behind us and the good times on their way," the spokesman told AFP.

The SIA order for 10 Airbus planes and options for 20 more will make the Singapore carrier Airbus Industrie's biggest customer, he said.

Mr. Pillai said the deal cancelled options already held by SIA for 15 Boeing 747s and 13 A340 aircraft.

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## Prices soar in Sanaa

SANA (RY) — It costs a lot more to live in Sanaa than before Yemen's war broke out in early May. From sugar to toothpaste,

imported or local products, prices have risen often by 50 per cent and sometimes as much as 500 per cent in seven weeks.

The patience of many residents of the northern capital is wearing thin though government officials say at least they have displayed more restraint than in December and January, when they took to the streets to protest price increases.

Residents accuse merchants of black-marketing and raising prices without justification.

"I can understand it if I am buying an imported item, but locally produced or assembled items — this is a rip-off," one housewife said.

She said milk had gone up by nearly 160 per cent, toothpaste by 500 per cent. "These are locally produced items. There is no reason to justify these increases."

Outwardly, life is almost normal in this city of 1.5 million people. Sanaa airport was reopened about two weeks ago though only the national carrier Yemenia flies.

The markets are crowded as usual, though about half the shops are closed and there is an overnight curfew. But traders say many people are just looking, not buying, and profits are down.

"These are difficult days. We are just trying to cut our losses as there are no buyers. We have to bear up," one said.

Officials say the people are ready to sacrifice, aware of the struggle with southern Yemen who seceded from a four-year union with the north soon after the war flared on May 4.

"The people's bearing is not due only to the existence of the emergency law declared since the start of the war, but also because of a realisation the country faces a national risk, requiring sacrifices," one political source said.

But a housewife said: "There is a limit to our endurance. So far our patience is partly genuine and partly feigned, and in either case we are suffering."

Imported wheat, flour and one kind of rice are subsidised. Officially, prices of these items remained unchanged, but they were becoming scarce in the market, a housewife said.

Government warnings of price rises did not stop price rises.

The price of sugar in particular has gone up by about 200 per cent, a 50-kilogramme sack costing 1,400 riyals before the war, was fetching about 4,100 riyals, residents said.

Prices have shot up by 45 to 70 per cent for unsubsidised rice, edible oil, tea, beans and cheese. Meat, chicken and vegetables rose by 15 to 45 per cent. Cigarettes by 75 per cent.

Even the beloved qat, a mildly narcotic leaf that most Yemeni men chew in the afternoon, has doubled in price.

To a limited extent higher prices on imports were due to the decline in the free-market value of the riyal, to between 80 and 100 to the dollar from around 70 before the war.

## JORDAN FINANCIAL REPORTS

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## Russia signs partnership pact

BRUSSELS (R) — Russia signed NATO's partnership for peace Wednesday and, proclaiming that it could do business with the West, sealed an agreement on broader cooperation hailed as vital to post-cold war security in Europe.

Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev signed the partnership scheme on closer military links with the alliance at NATO headquarters, putting an end to recent disputes between the two sides on issues ranging from Bosnia to arms control.

Following bitter complaints from Moscow that NATO was ignoring its big power status, the two former arch-foes have also agreed a framework for broader political ties which go beyond military cooperation.

Mr. Kozyrev told a meeting of alliance ambassadors and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher that cooperation with NATO was not without problems. There had been a lack of coordination and some unwillingness to change old stereotypes. But he added:

"Let me state with full certainty... there are no insurmountable obstacles on the way to shaping a workable relationship between Russia and its Western partners."

"Today, we take one more step in the direction of strengthening relations between Russia and NATO and in the search for new formulas to secure common European stability and security," Mr. Kozyrev told the meeting.

"This is a defining moment in shaping the security of our continent," said NATO Deputy Secretary-General Sergio Balanzino. "There will only be stability in Europe with and not against Russia."

But he made clear that NATO would retain its independence.

There could be no question of giving Russia any veto over alliance decisions or of dividing Europe into spheres of influence, as happened after the 1945 Yalta agreement between the World War II allies.

"Such a relationship has nothing to do with some kinds of NATO-Russian condominium or a 'Yalta two,'" Mr. Balanzino said.

Mr. Kozyrev agreed. "This is not a 'Yalta two' but a 'Brussels one,'" he said.

Mr. Balanzino said new ties between Russia and NATO had to help build confidence throughout Europe. His remarks were clearly intended to reassure Moscow's former satellites.

Countries like Poland and Hungary want to join the alliance despite Russian opposition and fear they could be shut out of a special relationship between NATO and Russia. The alliance has promised to take on new members at some point in the future.

Mr. Balanzino and Mr. Christopher, the only alliance foreign minister to attend the signing, said good relations between NATO and Russia would also serve the interests of those countries.

The broader relationship with Russia would not be

kept secret from other former cold war enemies that have now become partners, Mr. Balanzino said. NATO would share information with Russia and consult it "on issues of common concern."

A separate joint declaration to be published Wednesday sets out the principles that broader cooperation, recognizing Russia's status as a major power.

"Today... we take a major step toward building the bonds of cooperation that can secure the peace of a broader Europe," Mr. Christopher told the meeting.

Defence Minister Volker Rueste said the signing transferred stability eastwards through well-balanced cooperation and integration.

"I welcome the success of all those involved as a historical milestone in a process that gives Europe more stability and thereby ensures peace," he said.

Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel said Russia had to be fully integrated into the construction of new security structures in Europe and added that Moscow would bring its rich experience and deep commitment into the partnership.

"In view of its size, geographical position, population and military potential, Russia plays an exceptionally significant role in European security and stability," he said.

"A constructive relationship between NATO and Russia — even beyond the partnership itself — is a necessary complement," he added in his statement issued in Bonn after Mr. Kozyrev signed the scheme for closer military links with the West in Brussels.

Mr. Kozyrev told allied ambassadors that Russia could still be interested in joining — but after Eastern European states. Russia has said before it wants to join NATO.

"His tone was very conciliatory and he accepted the

principle of NATO expansion," said one alliance source, who asked not to be identified. "We were delighted."

Mr. Kozyrev told the meeting that the partnership scheme should be given time to work before the 16-nation alliance expanded.

Germany Wednesday greeted Moscow's signing of NATO's partnership for peace scheme as an important "historical milestone" that would ensure peace in that would ensure peace in Europe," Mr. Christopher told the meeting.

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**FAKES GO UP IN SMOKE:** Luxury T-shirts and leather handbags sporting fake labels went up in flames on Tuesday as French Budget Minister Nicolas Sarkozy watched over the public burning of 1,000 counterfeit items at a Paris airport. Members of prestigious French luxury goods firms such as Hermès, Cartier, Dior Cardin, Lacoste, Chanel and Vuitton looked on at Orly Airport as customs officers torched piles of seized counterfeit items while bulldozers crushed

mounds of watches. Mr. Sarkozy, keen to protect the country's powerful luxury goods sector, ushered in tough new legislation last February making counterfeiting liable to smuggling charges in the country. The French say seven out of every 10 counterfeit items is a copy of a French-made product. The photograph shows firemen dousing gasoline over counterfeit luxury clothes before burning them at Orly Airport, outside Paris (AFP photo)

## U.S., Russia to discuss Bosnian peace as battles continue

SARAJEVO (R) — U.S.

and Russian ministers met to complete a peace plan for battered Bosnia Wednesday, amid infantry and artillery fire in a central war zone, a U.N. spokesman said.

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher told reporters travelling with him to a NATO meeting in Brussels that agreement on details of a big power peace plan for Bosnia was very close.

A U.N. spokesman in Sarajevo, Major Rob Annink, said infantry fighting continued all Tuesday and into Wednesday to the west of Ribnica but could not say if the Bosnian Serb or the Muslim-led Bosnian army initiated the attacks.

The Bosnian Serb leadership has for some days accused the Bosnian army of attacking Serb-held villages near a strategic road linking Ribnica and Zavidovici, south of Mount Ozren and has threatened a "massive counter-offensive."

The road cuts across a long finger of mountainous terrain under Serb control but surrounded on three sides by forces of the Bosnian government.

The major power initiative is expected to propose a 51-49 ethnic split of Bosnia between a Muslim and Croat federation and their Serb foes.

Mr. Christopher and Mr. Kozyrev are due to discuss the results of their talks, which also focused on North Korea's suspected secret weapons programme, later at a news conference.

European diplomats say foreign ministers of the five nations have provisionally agreed to meet on July 1 and 2 to sign off on the proposals, which will then be presented to the Bosnian factions with a "take it or leave it" ultimatum.

Both sides in the Bosnian conflict have raised considerable objections to the deal, the latest in a line of international peace efforts. Mr. Christopher said agreement was also close on a package of promises and threats to

encourage acceptance.

In Bosnia U.N. officials said military activity persisted at a higher level than in the first week of a temporary truce introduced on June 10 to prepare the parties to accept the long term peace deal.

A U.N. spokesman in Sarajevo, Major Rob Annink, said infantry fighting continued all Tuesday and into Wednesday to the west of Ribnica but could not say if the Bosnian Serb or the Muslim-led Bosnian army initiated the attacks.

The Bosnian Serb leadership has for some days accused the Bosnian army of attacking Serb-held villages near a strategic road linking Ribnica and Zavidovici, south of Mount Ozren and has threatened a "massive counter-offensive."

The road cuts across a long finger of mountainous terrain under Serb control but surrounded on three sides by forces of the Bosnian government.

The major power initiative is expected to propose a 51-49 ethnic split of Bosnia between a Muslim and Croat federation and their Serb foes.

Mr. Christopher and Mr. Kozyrev are due to discuss the results of their talks, which also focused on North Korea's suspected secret weapons programme, later at a news conference.

European diplomats say foreign ministers of the five nations have provisionally agreed to meet on July 1 and 2 to sign off on the proposals, which will then be presented to the Bosnian factions with a "take it or leave it" ultimatum.

Both sides in the Bosnian conflict have raised considerable objections to the deal, the latest in a line of international peace efforts. Mr. Christopher said agreement was also close on a package of promises and threats to

on their movement by both armies.

Bosnian Serb sources have said 5,000 Serb civilians have left their homes on the Ozren frontlines in the face of a Muslim advance that has captured three villages.

The U.N. has refused to confirm that a major Muslim ground assault is under way. Officials said an artillery spotting radar had been moved to the region from nearby Tuzla in the hope of clarifying the situation.

Fighting has also continued elsewhere. Maj. Annink said, particularly around Doboj and Tuzla, both towns close to the Ozren battlefields.

Maj. Annink reported an upsurge in activity in the northwest enclave of Bihać, where forces loyal to Sarajevo have recently mounted a fierce offensive against breakaway Muslim troops fighting for local strongman Fikret Abdić.

Two British soldiers have been injured in an explosion in central Bosnia, the British Defence Ministry said Wednesday.

A spokeswoman for the ministry said one soldier was reported badly injured in the incident, which occurred late Tuesday.

"Two British soldiers were injured when their armoured vehicle sustained damage in an explosion, the nature of which is currently being investigated," she said.

The incident happened about 10 kilometres to the southwest of Maglaj in central Bosnia, a third occupant was uninjured.

Government controlled Sarajevo Radio said that 19 civilians were injured by shell fire in Zavidovici during Serb attacks Tuesday.

The U.N. has said its ability to verify the claims of either side is hampered by a limited number of personnel in the remote Ozren region and severe restrictions placed

## Berlusconi makes EU debut

ROME (R) — Italy could be a key player in the fight developing over who should be the next European Commission president when new Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi makes his European Union (EU) debut at this week's summit in Corfu.

Media tycoon Berlusconi, propelled to power by a free market message in a made-for-television campaign, travels to the Greek island gathering buoyed by his Forza Italia Party's triumphant showing in this month's European Parliament elections.

He believes his popular endorsement 10 weeks after his general election victory will put the lid on expressions of concern in Europe over the presence of five ministers from the neo-fascist-led national alliance in his right-leaning cabinet.

Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou, French President François Mitterrand and outgoing Commission President Jacques Delors have all been critical of the National Alliance and will meet Mr. Berlusconi for the first time at the two-day summit opening Friday.

Their concern has been shared by fellow Socialists in the Belgian coalition led by Christian Democrat Jean-Luc Dehaene, one of three main candidates in the contest to succeed Mr. Delors.

Mr. Dehaene is backed by Germany and France, the countries past Italian governments traditionally fol-

lowed on EU policy.

This time could be different, with the Italians making clear they would like a decision on the succession put off and saying publicly that they have not made up their minds whom to support.

"The matter is of utmost importance and should not be resolved in a hurry," Italian Foreign Minister Antonio Martino said Tuesday.

"That is the sense of the recent contacts the prime minister and I have had with representatives of our partners," he said.

The other main candidates are outgoing Dutch Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers, like Mr. Dehaene a Christian Democrat, and Britain's Sir Leon Brittan, the current trade commissioner.

France, Germany and Greece have all made clear they want the issue wrapped up in Corfu rather than delayed for a special summit later this year as Italian officials have suggested.

Mr. Martino said the appointment should be linked to the filling of other top posts in major international organisations including that of the new World Trade Organisation (WTO), for which Italian former Minister Renato Ruggiero is a candidate.

Diplomatic sources say the Italian position on the presidency marks a departure in style by Rome's new government from previous Christian Democrat-led administrations which had

## Russian premier arrives in U.S.

WASHINGTON (R) — Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin arrived here Tuesday to sign several bilateral agreements as officials said to attend the U.S.-Russia summit meeting was planned for later this year in Washington.

Mr. Chernomyrdin was to finalise agreements on cooperation in oil exploration and space cooperation, but his visit was also seen as a sign of his growing importance in Moscow as the number two to President Boris Yeltsin.

"Chernomyrdin is running the government day to day," one senior U.S. administration official said. "Yeltsin as the leader of the country is involved in foreign policy issues but not as much perhaps in day to day government as he once was."

In the first of two days of talks planned between the Russian premier and Vice President Al Gore — they chair a bilateral commission exploring opportunities for trade and other forms of cooperation, both men met Tuesday at the Smithsonian's Air and Space Museum.

After shaking hands before a replica of the superpowers' Apollo-Soyuz space ships that linked up in space in 1975, Mr. Gore stressed that the U.S.-Russia partnership in space would "benefit the world, not just the United States and Russia."

"There are more important real benefits for each country, not only in terms of technology, but also in terms of bridges of understanding that develop when we work toward common goals," Mr. Gore said.

The two leaders then attended the premier of *Design in Space*, a 40-minute film with views of Venus and Mars, footage from nine shuttle missions and from the Russian orbiting Mir space station, all viewed on the Air and Space Museum's giant, 23-by-15 metre (75-by-50 foot) screen.

The exact date of the presidential summit, which will last two to three days, will be decided at the Group of Seven meeting of leaders of the major industrialised countries in Naples, Italy in July, a U.S. administration official said.

President Bill Clinton and Mr. Yeltsin, who will meet at the G-7 meeting, have already held two summits, one in Vancouver, Canada, last year and one in Moscow in January.

Russia has long been pressuring for membership in the G-7, which groups the world's leading industrial countries. But the U.S. official said allowing Moscow into the club was not imminent.

Defectors at the camp, however, said that while they were still attracted by the government's call for national reconciliation, the centre-leftists were stressed.

If any countries were to continue to assist the rebels in any way after they had been outlawed, it would be direct interference in Cambodian affairs, he stressed.

"It's time to wipe them out," he said.

Prince Sihanouk was not available for comment as he had yet to return from an official visit to Jakarta.

Sieng Lapresse, however, said it was important to outlaw the guerrilla faction in order to draw a clear distinction between the legitimate and the rebels.

Co-premiers Prince Norodom Ranariddh and Hun Sen made regular public appeals for guerrillas to defect and helicopters air-dropped leaflets with the same message into Khmer Rouge-controlled zones.

Defectors at the camp, however, said that while they were still attracted by the government's call for national reconciliation, the centre-leftists were stressed.

Sieng Lapresse said he believed the motion to outlaw the

guerrillas would get a majority vote in parliament.

Meanwhile, the government is losing appeal with guerrillas and numbers are declining sharply, former guerrillas said Wednesday.

In the exact date of the presidential summit, which will last two to three days, will be decided at the Group of Seven meeting of leaders of the major industrialised countries in Naples, Italy in July, a U.S. administration official said.

Prominent Janata Dal Deputy George Fernandes told reporters the breakaway group regarded itself as the "real Janata Dal". That group has since split further, with Ajit Singh joining Congress.

"What was left of the Janata Dal made a poor showing in state polls last year, when it was humbled in the key northern region of Uttar Pradesh by a coalition of two other leftist parties.

Some of the Janata Dal dissidents might even join Congress in the near future, Divind Reve, 32, was found Tuesday in a Pattaya hotel, 81 kilometres (50 miles) southeast of Bangkok, according to police Colonel Yunthaboon Dissanai. He is wanted for the June 3 theft of 74,000 kroner (\$10,300) from the Time Spar Bank.

At Elvis auction, even guitar pick costs \$800

LAS VEGAS (AP) — If it belonged to Elvis Presley, it has to be expensive. Even his chipped guitar pick cost \$800 at an auction at the Las Vegas Hilton. Other items sold Saturday to fans and collectors included Elvis' personal guitar, \$30,000; his personal American Express card, \$36,000 and his birth certificate, \$60,000. "At this rate, I couldn't even afford one of his shoes," said Morris Lyon, a New Yorker who brought \$600 and walked away with nothing. Other items included the king's sequined jumpsuit, jewels



A Rwandan woman cries as she holds her dying child in Kabuga, near Kigali. Up to 500,000 people are believed to have been killed in the ethnic fighting which erupted over two months ago (AFP photo)

## Fugitive Abiola addresses rally in Nigeria

LAGOS (R) — Moshood Abiola, a millionaire businessman who declared himself president of Nigeria this month, appeared in public to address a rally in Lagos Wednesday despite being a fugitive from the police, witnesses said.

Mr. Abiola, who is widely believed to have won last year's annulled presidential elections, spoke to about 4,000 supporters in a working-class area just one kilometre from a police station.

"I haven't been in hiding. There is no way Abiola can hide," he told the rally.

"I have deliberately withdrawn for a few days to devote myself along with members of the transition committee to the process of concrete planning of the structure and

model of government that will satisfy and meet the grave economic and political challenges of Nigeria," he said.

The police declared Mr. Abiola a wanted person after he escaped house arrest and declared himself president on June 11. There were no police to be seen at the gathering.

"Nigerians must rise up to protect democracy and our divine right to choose leaders to govern us," said Mr. Abiola who drove to the rally and wore an immaculate green Nigerian gown embroidered in gold.

The audience was ecstatic. Some carried banners saying "Abiola is the answer." Others scrambled to shake his hand.

Meanwhile, military leader General Sani Abacha said a constitutional conference rejected by the opposition, due to start on June 27 in Abuja

will debate "fundamental issues" and will not just draft a new constitution.

"Perhaps the appealation 'constitutional' has misled many to think that the conference will merely draft yet another constitution. Far from it, it is our intention that the conference will debate the fundamental issues that will enable us to move forward in unity and harmony, with justice and equity," he said during a meeting with politicians and "leaders of thought."

It is the first time Nigerian authorities have publicly said the conference is not planned

solely to fashion a new constitution for the country.

Critics and government opponents have described the constitution as diversionary, a waste of time and resources and "a ruse" by the military to perpetuate itself in power.

They say two constitutions made in 1979 and 1989 have remained largely unimplemented.

Gen. Abacha said critics should "reconsider their position. Let them go to the conference and plead their case before the assembly representing the widest possible spectrum of Nigerian society as a whole."

Some of these critics, he said, were those who invited his administration to power last November.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Turkish U.N. troops arrive in Croatia

ZAGREB (R) — The first of the Turkish soldiers scheduled for deployment as U.N. peacekeepers along frontlines in Bosnia began to arrive at the Croatian port of Split on Wednesday, U.N. officials said. "They have started arriving in the area today, with the first group of 250 soldiers," Mathew Nerzic, U.N. spokesman in Zagreb told Reuters. The group, the first of almost 1,500 soldiers bound for U.N. duties, arrived aboard two Turkish military ships. "They are expected to be fully deployed in Bosnia by late July," Mr. Nerzic said. Serb leaders reacted angrily to news of Turkish participation in U.N. operations in Bosnia, arguing Turkey's lengthy Ottoman rule in the region and its history of conflict with Serbs would make its soldiers favour Bosnia's Muslims. The U.N. says it will station the Turks on positions in central Bosnia between Bosnia's Croats and Muslims, allowing British soldiers to be redeployed elsewhere.

### 800 evacuated from Mallorca hotel

MALLORCA, Spain (AFP) — Eight hundred people were evacuated from the blazing Rey Don Jaime Hotel in Calvia on the Balearic Island of Mallorca Wednesday. German tourists Willy Kemper and Louis Daleman, and Britons Collin Sandeman and Ian Sutherland were hospitalised with smoke-poisoning. Officials could not give an immediate cause for the fire, which destroyed about 50 rooms of the hotel in the small town west of Palma on this popular Mediterranean resort island. The hotel management said it would resettle a hundred or so guests into neighbouring establishments.

### Simpson's alibi contradicted

LOS ANGELES (R) — Football superstar O.J. Simpson's alibi that he was home alone waiting for a ride to the airport at the time his ex-wife and a friend of hers were murdered was contradicted by two people in reports Tuesday. A separate report said the attack was so vicious that Nicole Brown Simpson, the football hall of famer's 35-year-old ex-wife was unable to call for help because her vocal chords were cut almost immediately in the attack by the knife-slashing assailant. NBC News, quoting law enforcement sources, reported that Kayo Kaelin, the caretaker at Simpson's \$1.2 million estate in the exclusive Brentwood section of the city, confirmed that Simpson was not at home waiting for a limousine as his lawyer Robert Shapiro has claimed. KABC television, an affiliate of the ABC network, quoted an unnamed Los Angeles county coroner's source as saying the killer used a serrated knife to kill Nicole Brown Simpson and her male friend outside her \$700,000 townhouse in the exclusive Brentwood section of the city nine days ago.

### Famine kills 40 a day in Ethiopia

ARAKA, Ethiopia (R) — Some 40 people — many children — are dying each day in the single district of Bolosari in southeast Ethiopia, stirring fears of a repeat of the great famine that killed a million people a decade ago. Local officials in Wolaitsa zone in the southeast estimated nearly one-third of its three million people were in emergency need of aid because of little or no rain in the last four years. Fekadeselasie Beza, administrator of Bolosari, told Reuters 40 people were dying due to famine in his district alone. Rains failed last summer and rains usually from February to April were late. A total of 5,327 deaths were reported in Bolosari between Jan. 1 and April 20. Aid workers said children under the age of 10 accounted for about 60 per cent of the deaths and most of them were killed by illness fuelled by severe malnutrition. Wolaitsa is about 450 kilometres southwest of the capital Addis Ababa. In the village of Araka, a father of four said he was so weak from hunger one night he could not ward off hyenas which snatched and killed one of his children. He said his wife had died a week earlier and he was unable even to call for help.

### 3 held in killing of Italian priest

PALERMO, Sicily (R) — Police Wednesday arrested three people in connection with the killing of an anti-mafia priest in Sicily last year. Arrest warrants were also served to two suspected mafiosi in jail on other charges. Father Giuseppe Puglisi was shot in the back of the head outside his home in the drab and crime-ridden industrial Brancaccio neighbourhood last September. From his church in the neighbourhood, one of the toughest in the Sicilian capital, Fr. Puglisi often preached against the mafia and warned young people to steer clear of the organisation. The three men arrested

were charged with having intimidated the priest in the run-up to his killing. Giuseppe and Filippo Graviano, two imprisoned mafia bosses who controlled the Brancaccio Neighbourhood, were charged with ordering the killing. Fr. Puglisi's actual killers remain unidentified and at large.

### LDP to table no-confidence motion

TOKYO (AFP) — Japan's opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) formally decided Wednesday to table a no-confidence motion against the minority government of Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata, party officials said. The motion is expected to be submitted to parliament Friday after the government's fiscal 1994 budget is given final parliamentary approval Thursday, LDP sources said. The left wing Social Democratic Party (SDP), the second largest opposition group, started talks Wednesday with the ruling coalition on the formation of a new cabinet. SDP Chairman Tomio Murayama has said the Socialist Party was ready to form a caretaker cabinet with the LDP if talks with Mr. Hata's coalition failed. The SDP left the ruling camp shortly before Mr. Hata formed his cabinet in late April. Mr. Hata has urged the SDP to return to the coalition. A no-confidence motion against the fragile Hata cabinet will easily pass through parliament if the LDP and the SDP join hands as they hold a majority. But it remained unclear whether all members of the two parties would support it.

### Angolan mediator to meet Mandela

LUSAKA (R) — The chief U.N. mediator in Angolan peace talks and observers from the United States, Russia and Portugal were expected to meet South African President Nelson Mandela Thursday to discuss ways to end one of Africa's longest-running civil wars, a source close to the talks said Wednesday. The source said U.N. mediator Alioune Blondin Beye and the observers were expected to meet Mr. Mandela in Cape Town Thursday and return to Lusaka Friday.

### Talks on Hong Kong make headway

HONG KONG (AFP) — Sino-British talks on Hong Kong were making headway Wednesday, negotiators said, as a top Chinese official suggested Beijing was prepared to accept a financing plan for the colony's new airport. "We've covered a lot of ground. The atmosphere continues to be constructive," chief British negotiator Hugh Davies said after the second day of Sino-British Joint Liaison Group talks. He declined to give details, but Mr. Davies and Chinese counterpart Guo Fengmin promised to say "something more" when their meeting winds up Thursday.

### Macedonia launches ethnic census

SKOPJE (R) — Macedonia launched an ambitious ethnic census Tuesday in a bid to resolve political tensions in the former Yugoslav republic but the survey was plagued by delays in some areas, census officials said. The two-week census, sponsored and supervised by the European Union, is aimed at settling conflicting claims by rival ethnic groups over population ratios in Macedonia. The census got off to a slow start in western Macedonia. State Census Commission officials told Reuters. In the towns of Tetovo and Gostivar the survey had yet to begin, said the officials, who asked not to be identified. Although the European Union sent monitors to the republic to ensure international standards were upheld, ethnic Albanian leaders accused authorities of failing to make necessary technical preparations and said the composition of census commissions lacked ethnic balance. Albanians make up one of the largest and politically restive minorities in Macedonia's 2.2 million population, which includes Macedonians, Serbs, Vlachs, Bulgars and, according to Greece, some Greeks.

### De Michelis cleared on graft count

MILAN (R) — A court Wednesday cleared former Foreign Minister Giovanni De Michelis, one of the most internationally known casualties of Italy's massive graft scandals, of one count of bribery. But the court told the prosecution to press ahead with action on another count of breaking laws on the financing of political parties. The rotund, long-haired De Michelis had been charged with violation of party financing laws for accepting a promise of a 70 million lire (\$44 million) contribution to his Socialist Party's campaign for general elections in 1992. The court ruled De Michelis could not be found guilty since the money promised by an environmental services company was never handed over.

## French-speaking African peacekeepers leave Kigali

KIGALI (R) — The United Nations Wednesday evacuated 42 French-speaking African peacekeepers from the Rwandan capital Kigali where heavy fighting raged between rebels and government forces.

Major Jean-Guy Plante told Reuters U.N. military observers from Togo, Congo and Senegal were evacuated to Nairobi as a precaution ahead of planned French military action strongly opposed by the rebel Patriotic Front (RPF).

"Indications lead us to believe they were not welcome," he said.

In neighbouring Uganda, Rwandan rebels told a French envoy they would not allow the French intervention force into their country, a rebel spokesman said.

French envoy Jean-Michel Marlaud and rebel representatives disagreed bitterly in talks in Uganda Tuesday over France's plans to send troops to Rwanda on a humanitarian, U.N.-backed mission to rescue civilians.

"They (the French) asked us for clearance to proceed to Rwanda and we said no," the RPF spokesman said.

RPF Commander Major-General Paul Kagame refused to meet Mr. Marlaud, the French ambassador to Kigali, who trying to persuade the rebels to drop objections to the deployment.

"They disagreed bitterly over the slightest detail. The RPF would not even hear of humanitarian assistance," said an Ugandan official. An African diplomat said the

talks ended in disarray.

Heavy fighting rocked Kigali overnight and most of Wednesday morning as the combatants exchanged artillery, mortar and machinegun fire in some of the fiercest fighting in recent days.

The RPF lobbed shell after shell at government positions on hills surrounding the central African capital.

France was pressing ahead with its military build-up despite the opposition in Africa and fears at home that troops could be heading toward a quagmire.

The RPF has called on the U.N. Security Council to withdraw the U.N. force in Rwanda if it approves the French operation.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Richard Duque said Paris expected the U.N. Security Council to give approval later in the day and troops could go into Rwanda this week.

President Francois Mitterrand gathered ministers and military commanders to discuss plans for the operation, code-named Turquoise.

"We are fully aware that this is a difficult, complex and risky operation, but it is to France's honour to embark on a humanitarian operation," government spokesman Nicolas Sarkozy told reporters after a regular weekly cabinet meeting.

French Television broadcast films of French Marines landing at Bangui. Military sources said the Central African capital could be the rear base for some 2,300 soldiers involved in Turquoise. Scouts had already reached the Zairean airport of Goma to check which airports and roads could be used.

The evacuation of the

French-speaking African peacekeepers from Kigali reflected growing anxiety that the French plan could put at risk other members of the small U.N. force already in the country. It was feared that the Francophone peacekeepers would be seen as natural allies of the French-led forces.

Congo, Senegal and Togo have all expressed support for and interest in playing a role in a French-led military force.

The RPF says the only way to stop the killings is by the defeat of the government forces and arrest of their leaders.

Analysts believe the RPF is trying to go for an all-out kill before the arrival of the French-led force. The fighting virtually paralysed operations by the U.N.'s tiny force in Kigali to try to rescue civilians trapped cross battle-lines.

Meanwhile, diplomatic sources in Paris said Wednesday the French government is poised to begin military intervention in Rwanda early Thursday, provided the U.N. Security Council gives the green light.

Paris expects a favourable Security Council vote later Wednesday on the draft resolution authorising Operation Turquoise, the sources added.

The military intervention would begin in an area where Rwanda's ethnic Tutsi minority is endangered, close to the town of Cyangugu in southwest Rwanda, in a zone held by forces of the Hutu majority government, the sources said.

## Scharping calls for change, says 'Kohl must go'

HALLE, Germany (R) — Faltering opposition leader Rudolf Scharping declared Wednesday it was time for a change in Germany and urged his Social Democrats (SPD) to redouble their efforts to defeat Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

Mr. Scharping, struggling to regain the lead in the opinion polls before the Oct. 16 election, told an SPD congress the party should not be discouraged by recent setbacks.

"Helmut Kohl must go!" he cried out to cheering delegates crowded into an East German-era indoor ice skating rink.

"We can't look ahead if we hang our heads low," he told the one-day meeting in this east German city.

It was a fighting speech, the kind the party needed to hear after losing both the German presidential and the European Parliament votes recently, and the normally stiff premier of Rhineland-Palatinate Palatinate delivered it with verve.

"We want a change be-

cause this is a chance for Germany," he wound up as delegates chanted "now it starts now it starts" to show their campaign would enter a "second phase."

Mr. Scharping also struck out against SPD rivals whose sniping at his moderate policies and wooden style have threatened to sabotage his campaign just as earlier critics undermined the party's last two failed challengers to Mr. Kohl.

He denounced left-wingers

urging him to announce he would seek a coalition with the environmentalist Greens, saying that would only weaken the SPD's chances of winning.

Delegates were clearly pleased with the speech but it was not sure even a more aggressive Scharping could repair the damage the SPD has suffered in recent months.

Mr. Kohl, who six months ago seemed sure to lose his fourth bid at re-election, has recovered in the opinion polls and his Christian Democrats would now win 43 per cent

against 35 for the SPD, according to the latest survey by the Forsa group.

The SPD's first Clinton-like slogan "jobs, jobs, jobs" could not help it from slumping to 32.2 per cent in the European polls and supporters wonder if another American import — "time for a change" — can roll back a wave of optimism in Germany.

"We are doing so badly in the polls that we can only go up from here," one delegate remarked.

The imbalance between Kohl's professional campaign and Mr. Scharping's struggling challenge were on clear display this week in Halle, where both stumped for their parties' candidates in the crucial Saxony-Anhalt state election.

The SPD failed to beat Mr. Kohl's scandal-ridden Christian Democrats in Saxony-Anhalt's local polls 10 days ago and another loss in the state poll would be a serious setback.

The veteran chancellor preached his message of

## Company charged with developing super nicotine leaf

WASHINGTON (AP) — A major tobacco company secretly developed a tobacco plant with double the amount of nicotine found in nature, growing it in Brazil and ultimately selling it in five U.S. cigarette brands, the government has charged.

Food and Drug Commissioner David Kessler told a congressional panel that Brown and Williamson

was answering the question," said Rep. Henry Waxman, whose House Energy and Health Subcommittee heard Mr. Kessler's testimony.

Also Mr. Kessler testified that an FDA probe uncovered Tobacco Industry documents showing companies add ammonia to cigarettes because it boosts the amount of nicotine that gets into a smoker's blood.

Mr. Kessler's latest findings, however, indicate those chiefs may have purged themselves, several subcommittee members said Tuesday.

Rebuffing more radical anti-military resolutions passed by the Greens, he added: "We stand by the Atlantic partnership. For us, NATO and the army are not up for negotiation."

He detailed industry documents that describe ammonia as an "impact booster" that can in some cigarettes double the amount of nicotine a smoker inhales.

Mr. Kessler's latest findings, however, indicate those chiefs may have purged themselves, several subcommittee members said Tuesday.

"It must be said without qualification that this is a very disappointing development indeed," Foreign Minister Gareth Evans told parliament.

Mr. Evans said Indonesia had been making progress recently towards free and open expression within the media and society generally.

"Yesterday's decision is in sharp contrast to the trend as far as the media is concerned," he said.

"We hope that it doesn't signal any wider-ranging imposition and that the magazines will sooner, rather than later, be permitted to resume publication."

With a circulation of over 450,000, DeTik is by far the most popular of the three. Tempo has a circulation of 200,000, while Editor sells 87,000 copies a week.

## Great start to Nigeria as they beat Bulgaria 3-0

**3-0**

DALLAS, Texas (AFP) — Nigeria's World Cup adventure got off to a spectacular start when they overcame hapless Bulgaria 3-0 in their opening Group D match here Tuesday evening.

It was a perfect debut for the African champions who had promised they would be the surprise team of the tournament.

Nigeria's fast-running front line proved too much for Bulgaria who are in their sixth appearance in the World Cup finals and have still to win a match.

After a shaky start Nigeria began to settle down and in the 20th minute George Finidi broke down the right, cut into the area and his cross found Rashidi Yekini alone in front of the Bulgarian goal for the simplest finish.

Three minutes before half time Yekini turned provider when he crossed from the right, Daniel Amokachi



Nigerian forward Rashidi Yekini (R) attempts to steal the ball from Bulgarian defender Peter Bozhichev during their World Cup match at the Cotton Bowl in Dallas Tuesday.

broke free from his marker in the area, took the ball to the left and fired home a left-footed shot.

The icing on the cake came 11 minutes into the second half when Finidi again broke free on the right with his blistering speed. His far-post cross was met by a diving Emmanuel Amunike whose header gave goalkeeper and captain Borislav Mikhailov no chance.

But Bulgaria had every reason to feel unlucky in reaching half time two goals down. They were the more relaxed right from the kickoff and quickly posed problems for Nigeria's suspect defence.

After only 10 minutes Bulgaria's Barcelona striker Hristo Stoichkov set Emili Kostadinov free and only a great save by Mikhailov, who dived to the far post where Stoichkov headed to Jordan Letchkov, but he squandered the chance with the ball coming back off Rufai.

Bulgaria continued to press forward for the rest of the half. Stoichkov even had the ball in the net with a blistering 30-yard free kick but the effort was disallowed because it was supposed to be indirect.

Yet they were fortunate not to fall further behind four minutes from the break when Amunike crashed a shot

against the inside of the post.

In the second half the Nigerians, clearly bolstered by their two-goal lead, threatened to run amok with the Bulgarian defence stretched to the full. Desperately pushing forward to try and pull back a goal, Bulgaria left gaping holes at the back which was perfect for Nigeria's speed attack.

Mutin Adepoju, who came on for Samson Siasia in the 68th minute, nearly scored with his first touch of the ball a minute later. Only a great save by Mikhailov, who palmed the ball away for a corner, prevented Bulgaria from going four down.

The Bulgarian attack, despite all their efforts, had more or less run out of steam as the humid Texan heat, even Stoichkov, in doubt before the match because of a hamstring injury, made no impression in the second half.

"They played very well in the first half, they had many chances," Vogts said. "I expect better performances from us in the next games."

Spain beat Germany 1-0 June 20, 1984, at the European Championships in France, preventing the Germans from advancing to the second round.

Coach Jupp Derwall was sacked on the spot and Franz Beckenbauer was brought in to rescue German soccer.

His mission was completed with the 1990 World Cup title in Italy, and Vogts, his assistant, took over.

Spain played without sweeper Miguel Angel Nadal, who was suspended for two games after being expelled in the opener.

The Spanish goal climaxed a period of early pressure, with Spain in command with dangerous runs on the wings.

Goikoetxea seemed to want to cross from the right. Illgner took a few steps out

anticipating a floating cross, but the ball instead curled inside over Illgner's finger tips, hit the inside of the far post and bounced into the net.

"I intended to cross, but I got lucky," Goikoetxea said.

Even before the goal, Spain had chances. In the 10th minute, Barjuan Sergi burst through on the left past four German defenders in to the box, but Illgner made a brilliant save by knocking his right-foot shot into the corner.

Three minutes later, Illgner stopped a long-range drive by Josep Guardiola.

The Germans came out of the locker rooms blazing away and it took only three minutes from them to equalise.

Haessler floated a high cross from the right from a free kick to the far post.

Klinsmann rose over two Spanish defenders and thumped the ball hard. It bounced off the ground into the net for his second goal of the tournament.

The German offensive continued and it was Klinsmann again, this time with a flying header off another Haessler cross that threatened the Spanish goal. This time Zubizarrain

had to make a fine save.

In the 61st minute, German coach Berti Vogts made a substitution greeted by loud cheers from German fans.

Rudi Voeller, the 34-year-old

striker recalled from national team retirement before the World Cup, came in for

Moeller.

Only minutes later Voeller

made his presence felt. He

fed Klinsmann inside the area

with a short pass. Klinsmann

let loose with a powerful

right-foot drive that went

high.

Spain replied quickly, but

José Luis Caminero twice

missed the ball. Hierro then

nearly scored on the far post

when his shot went through

Illgner's legs but rolled along

the line and out.

Three minutes later,

Illgner stopped a long-range

drive by Josep Guardiola.

The Germans came out of

the locker rooms blazing

away and it took only three

minutes from them to equalise.

Germany too could have

clinched the match three mi-

nutes before the end.

Matthias Sammer fed

Klinsmann with a through

ball, the 29-year-old striker

strode into the area and flicked

the ball with the outside of

his right foot, but the shot

went just off the left post.

"I should have scored that

one," Klinsmann said. "I am

happy for scoring the equaliser

but that last shot had to go in."

## Klinsmann saves Germany with equaliser

CHICAGO (AP) — Ten years ago nearly to the day, Spain embarrassed Germany with a defeat that sent German soccer into a turmoil. Tuesday in Chicago, Germany had Juergen Klinsmann.

Klinsmann scored with a fine header in the 48th minute to salvage a 1-1 draw for the defending World Cup champion against a determined Spanish team.

Spain took an early lead through a 14th minute goal by Juan Antonio Goikoetxea.

Spain replied quickly, but

José Luis Caminero twice

missed the ball. Hierro then

nearly scored on the far post

when his shot went through

Illgner's legs but rolled along

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## WorldCupUSA



### Thursday matches

Group C: Italy vs. Norway in New York at 23:00 Amman time.

Group C: South Korea vs. Bolivia in Boston at 02:30 (Friday) Amman time.

### Friday matches

Group C: Mexico vs. Ireland in Orlando at 19:30 Amman time.

Group B: Brazil vs. Cameroon in San Francisco at 23:00 Amman time.

Group B: Sweden vs. Russia in Detroit at 02:30 (Saturday) Amman time.

Group B: Argentina vs. France in Paris at 23:00 Amman time.

Group A: Uruguay vs. Paraguay in Montevideo at 23:00 Amman time.

Group A: Costa Rica vs. Venezuela in Caracas at 23:00 Amman time.

Group A: United States vs. Scotland in Atlanta at 23:00 Amman time.

Group A: England vs. Spain in London at 23:00 Amman time.

Group A: Holland vs. Turkey in Amsterdam at 23:00 Amman time.

Group A: Greece vs. Portugal in Athens at 23:00 Amman time.

Group A: Poland vs. Bulgaria in Warsaw at 23:00 Amman time.

Group A: Chile vs. Costa Rica in Santiago at 23:00 Amman time.

Group A: Uruguay vs. Costa Rica in Montevideo at 23:00 Amman time.

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Three changes likely for Mexico

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Mexico are likely to make three changes to the team to take on Group E surprise Ireland Friday with Alberto Garcia Aspe, Carlos Hermosillo and Marcelino Bernal earning the starting spots. Midfielder Bernal came on as a substitute in the 1-0 defeat to Norway. He is expected to start while Raul Gutierrez stays on the bench. Garcia Aspe, who has completed a one-match ban, will replace Luis Garcia in midfield and Hermosillo will replace Luis Valdes in attack. Veteran Hugo Sanchez says he has recovered from a slight thigh strain.

### Norway newspaper's Cup gamble

OSLO (AFP) — Norway's largest evening paper Verdens Gang (VG) bet 660,000 kroner (\$94,285) here Wednesday on the Norwegian World Cup football team reaching the World Cup final. VG placed the bet at 12-1 odds — which could earn it a pay-out of eight million kroner (\$1.14 million).

### Korean workers plan Cup strike

SEOUL (AFP) — Around 25,000 South Korean workers plan a three-hour strike Friday — at the same time as South Korea play Bolivia in the World Cup. The workers at Hyundai Heavy Industries in the southern city of Ulsan said they would need three hours to vote on whether to go on a longer walkout over pay demands. South Korea came to a virtual standstill Saturday when its team drew 2-2 with Spain.

### Millwall gets suspended penalties

LONDON (AP) — The Millwall soccer club was found guilty Tuesday of failing to control its fans at last month's promotional playoff game against Derby, but it escaped with suspended penalties from the Football Association (FA). The team was told it would have to play two home matches behind closed doors and face a £100,000 (\$150,000) fine — but both sanctions were suspended for the next two seasons. Three league points were also deducted, but again the penalty was suspended — this time until the end of December. FA spokesman David Bloomfield said the suspended sentences would be imposed, in part or in full, in the event of serious misconduct involving Millwall or its fans, either at home or away. Seven people were injured and 16 arrested in fan violence at the May 18 playoff semifinal game at Millwall's ground. Twice, fans ran onto the field during the game, threatening.

### Japan's premier honours Zico

TOKYO (R) — Brazilian soccer legend Zico was honoured by Japan's prime minister Wednesday for his contribution to establishing the country's professional soccer league. In a ceremony at his official residence, Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata gave the 41-year-old veteran a testimonial and a deer skin ball used in "kemari," a form of football enjoyed by nobles in ancient Japan, a spokeswoman at the prime minister's office said. Last week Zico, whose full name is Arthur Antunes Coimbra, ended his long professional career in triumph, scoring his 817th goal and setting up another to give his Japanese club Kashima Antlers a 2-1 victory. Alongside former England soccer captain Gary Lineker, Zico was one of the big names imported for the establishment of Japan's professional league last May. He is the first foreign soccer player to win official recognition for his services. Media reports said Zico was planning to return to Brazil to set up a soccer school.

### GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANIAH HIRESH  
© 1993 Teatro Media Services Inc.

#### THERE'S A TIME FOR EVERYTHING

Both vulnerable, North deals.

**NORTH**

♦ K Q 6

♦ A K J 9

♦ A J 8 3

♦ Q 6

**WEST**

♦ J 9 7 3

♦ 10 4

♦ 5 2

Q 7 6 3

♦ 10 6 5 2

B 4

♦ 9 4 2 5

♦ K 8 7 5 3

**SOUTH**

♦ A 8 5 2

10 8 4

K 9 7

♦ A J 10

The bidding:

North East South West

1 Pass 2 NT Pass

6 NT Pass 3 Pass

Opening lead: S of 6

There are two stages to successful play: First, spot the different possibilities for your contract. Next, plan to make use of as many of them as possible. Consider this deal from an era when bidding judgment, not conventions, ruled the day.

North-South reached an excellent contract of 6-NT with the bidding of 6-NT. South opened 3 and passed.

There are two stages to successful play: First, spot the different possibilities for your contract. Next, plan to make use of as many of them as possible. Consider this deal from an era when bidding judgment, not conventions, ruled the day.

If that loses, declarer can win any return card at the high spades and if the suit doesn't work, even fall back on the heart finesse. That allows declarer to try all three lines and land the slam, if any one of them produces an extra trick.

### TWO CARS FOR SALE CUSTOMS DUTY UNPAID

1. Jeep Nissan Patrol Safari 1993, full options, full automatic, red colour with golden line, with guarantee.
2. Range Rover, 1989, full automatic, full options, amber colour.

Price to be fixed after inspection.  
Call tel: 09/954145

### CAR FOR SALE

Honda (Accord), model 1984, diplomatic plate, all automatic, with radio/cassette.

Excellent working conditions  
For inquiries and inspection call  
668171 / UNDP Office

## FIFA finds plastic solution for drinks

DALLAS, Texas (AFP) — Team officials will be allowed to throw plastic bags full of water onto the pitch so their players can drink at any time during World Cup games.

That is FIFA's solution to a problem raised by a coach from Ireland manager Jack Charlton.

General Secretary Sepp Blatter said players could seek drinks on all sides of the pitch providing it did not interfere with play.

"Players are most certainly allowed to drink," added Blatter. "We don't want to affect their health but at the same time we don't want bottles thrown on to the pitch."

FIFA's solution was explained by the Football Association of Ireland Chief Executive Sean Connolly. "We'll now be allowed to throw plastic bags of water to

the players from all sides of the pitch at practically any time," he said.

"It is not exactly a directive but I've been in touch with the local FIFA guy in Orlando and he has confirmed it. It is encouraging, at least, that they have at last taken notice of the concern we've been expressing."

"I also believe referees have had a strong word about it, having suffered the effects of the heat themselves. I noticed the guy in charge of the Norway-Mexico game in Washington Sunday actually stopped the game twice so people could have a drink."

Charlton's request for American football-style time-outs for drinks to avoid dehydration has been rejected. Charlton acted after seeing his striker Tommy Coyne become violently ill after Saturday's win over Italy.

## Ireland moves into 2nd place in World Cup poll

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Ireland jumped from eighth to second place behind Brazil in the Sprint soccer poll following its 1-0 upset of Italy in the opening round of the World Cup, poll organizers said Tuesday.

The poll is a weekly ranking of the top 10 national teams as voted on by an international panel of soccer journalists.

Brazil, which topped Russia 2-0, received 25 of a possible 47 first-place votes, and totalled 360 points. Ireland had 22 first-place votes and 326 points.

The Netherlands, which edged Saudi Arabia 2-1, re-

tained the third spot with 295 points. Nigeria, which beat Bulgaria 3-0 Tuesday, was fourth with 258 points, just a point ahead of Argentina, which Tuesday defeated Greece 4-0. Italy was sixth with 247 points. Germany fell to seventh with 223 points after an unimpressive 1-0 victory over Bolivia in the first game of the tournament.

Belgium held the eighth spot with 206 points, followed by Cameroon in ninth with 140. Romania, which upset Colombia 3-1, was 10th with 111 points, while Colombia fell out of the top 10 for the first time this year.

For then on, the life of the Lens striker changed as people recognised him in the street and wanted his autograph.

The 28-year-old former Olympique Marseille and Canon Yaounde player admitted the atmosphere in the United States does not match their Italy campaign when they reached the quarter-finals.

"It's true the atmosphere is not the same around us, even if we have received a marvelous welcome from the public. But we know how to enjoy ourselves," he added.

Orman-Biyik, set to win his 63rd cap at Stanford Stadium Friday in their Group B match, had little doubt Cameroon would score goals.

ing promoter Don King.

DeBruyn said he has no reason to believe that any DOC official has acted improperly.

**DOC officials were on Tyson's "prison payroll."**

Details of the alleged payments are expected to be disclosed soon in a tabloid newspaper that was not identified.

The publication reportedly paid Yager \$125,000 for information about the alleged payments.

As part of the deal, Yager provided 219 pages from his "Tyson daily diary," and audio tapes containing secretly recorded conversations that he claims will embarrass the DOC. One of the exchanges is allegedly between a key prison administrator and boxer Mike Tyson.

DOC commissioner Chris DeBruyn said he involved the agency's internal affairs division because of comments made two weeks ago by James Bell Yager, a well-known jailhouse lawyer and inmate advocate, the Indianapolis News reported Tuesday.

Yager told the News that at least three high-ranking

prison officials were on Tyson's "prison payroll."

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## Cameroon seeking 'shock of the century'

### WIMBLEDON, England

(AP) — In another stunning upset at Wimbledon, 120th-seeded Bryan Shelton routed No. 23 seed and 1991 champion Michael Stich 6-3, 6-3, 6-4 Wednesday.

Shelton joined fellow German Steffi Graf, the women's top seed and defending champion, as a first-round loser to an unseeded American. Graf's loss to Lori McNeil Tuesday was the first time a defending women's champion lost in the first round, and Stich became only the second men's No. 2 seed to lose that early.

But No. 1 men's seed, defending champion Pete Sampras, preserved some sense of order with a brisk 6-3, 6-4, 6-2 second-round victory over fellow American Rickey Reneberg.

Stich, who had to win three qualifying matches to make the field, has never gotten past the third round of any Grand Slam and never before beat a player in the top five. But he totally outplayed Stich, who let his frustration show and was targeted by boos when he exited court two.

"It's one of the top matches of my career so far," said Shelton, 28. "Nothing seemed to bother me from

## Klinsmann saves Germany

Nana Miyagi, 6-1, 7-6 (7-3) and No. 6 seed Kimiko Date crushed Britain's Shirl Ann Siddall, 6-2, 6-0.

No. 9 Lindsay Davenport, just back from her high school graduation in California, beat South African Tessa Price, 6-4, 6-2, and 12th seeded Zina Garrison Jackson beat Katarina Srebotnik of Slovakia, 6-3, 7-6 (7-4).

But No. 12 seed Anke Huber joined the ranks of German upset victims, falling to Ines Gorrochategui of Argentina, 6-3, 6-4.

Gabriela Sabatini, the No. 10 seed, salvaged a 2-6, 6-4, 6-1 first-round victory over Austria's Judith Wiesner. And Helena Sukova, designated the 17th seed after the withdrawal of No. 7 May Pierce, beat American Tami Whiting, 6-7 (9-7), 6-2, 6-6.

Davenport, a solid grass-court player, is one of several women suddenly seen as contenders for the title following Graf's historic defeat by McNeil.

With Graf gone, either Martina Navratilova, in her farewell appearance at 37, somehow wins her 10th Wimbledon crown, or the Graf-Navratilova lock on the title ends after 12 years, and a brand-new champion emerges.



Australia and compatriot Jamie Morgan Tuesday at the Wimbledon tennis championships. Rain has already caused several delays in play (AFP photo)

## Investigators lock into allegations of preferential treatment for Tyson

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Investigators from the Indiana Department of Corrections have asked to check into allegations that several agency officials accepted payments for preferential treatment for boxer Mike Tyson.

DOC commissioner Chris DeBruyn said he involved the agency's internal affairs division because of comments made two weeks ago by James Bell Yager, a well-known jailhouse lawyer and inmate advocate, the Indianapolis News reported Tuesday.

At the time DeBruyn elected to win the first trial in hand and try the heart finesse, that lost to East, who cleverly shifted to a club. Rather than bank everything on the finesse, declarer chose to rise with the ace and hope for an even split or a squeeze. Down one.

Since declarer cannot afford to set up a double pick for the enemy and the club is a losing finesse, the first order of business should be to take one of the finesses. We've seen what happens if the heart finesse loses. Declarer should take the safe finesse first, erasing to the king of spades to do so.

If that loses, declarer can win any return card at the high spades and if the suit doesn't work, even fall back on the heart finesse. That allows declarer to try all three lines and land the slam, if any one of them produces an extra trick.

which will be held in Rudha Hall Philadelphia Hotel - Amman on Monday & Tuesday, June 27, 28, 1994.

Start from 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.

P.S : These experts are shown for the first time in Jordan with competitive prices.

### INTERNATIONAL TRADING HOUSE FOR AGENCIES "AUCTION CORNER"

Have the honour to invite you to attend our

### PERSIAN GEM EXHIBITION

which will be held in Rudha Hall

Philadelphia Hotel - Amman on Monday &</p

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Omani women can enter parliament

MUSCAT (AP) — For the first time in the conservative Gulf Arab region, women have gained the right to become members of parliament and to be involved in the process of selecting its members, officials announced Wednesday. The Majlis Al Shura is a traditional consultative council. It has no formal powers, but is consulted by the ruler, Sultan Qaboos, on new laws and public policy. Until now, it has 59 members but the new one to be chosen this year will have 60. Muscat's deputy governor, Bar'ash Bin Saeed Al Saeed, told a press conference that only women from the capital district of Muscat, which has 11 seats, can become members or elect members. Mr. Saeed said allowing women a greater role in the process was designed to help the Majlis to "contribute with a bigger and more effective role in turning the wheel of development in the country. In the Omani system, only a few thousand community leaders nationwide are involved in the election of Majlis members. They gather in conclaves at the provincial level to vote for nominees, and the winners' names are forwarded to Sultan Qaboos, who determines the final composition of the body.

## Sudan gets tough on alcohol drinkers

KHARTOUM (R) — Police have mounted a campaign to eradicate the brewing and drinking of home-made liquor in Sudan's Khartoum state under the slogan "a year without alcohol," a local newspaper reported Wednesday. The crackdown will be pursued for a year in the capital and the state's three provinces, the government-owned Al Ingad Al Watani newspaper said. Sharia Islamic law, which has been in force in Sudan since 1991, prohibits the making and drinking of alcohol. Offenders are often caned, imprisoned or fined. Many of them are from the one million refugees who fled fighting between government troops and rebels in the south of the country and have settled on the outskirts of Khartoum.

## U.N. to supply Iran with contraceptives

NICOSIA (R) — A U.N. agency has approved a \$10 million plan to supply Iran with contraceptives and help in other population projects, Iran's IRNA news agency said on Wednesday. Under the five-year programme running to 1998, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) would complement the Iranian government's projects to reduce Iran's population growth, IRNA quoted a U.N. statement issued in Tehran as saying. About half of the sum is earmarked for family planning and better health care for mothers and children. "UNFPA would also assist in meeting Iran's contraceptive requirements," IRNA said. Birth control programme adopted by Iran over the past five years despite opposition by some traditionalist Muslim clerics have substantially reduced population growth.

## Iranian dies in police custody in Japan

TOKYO (AFP) — A 31-year-old Iranian man has died in police custody shortly after being arrested in a swoop on suspected illegal immigrants, Japanese press reports said Wednesday. They said Mehrpoor Arjang was picked up as part of an operation by some 200 police which arrested 48 Iranians Monday night in Tokyo's Ueno Park, a gathering place for illegal immigrants from Iran. Police said Arjang had deliberately banged his head shortly after arrest. Arjang reportedly said he was suffering from a headache shortly after and was taken to hospital, where officials said an X-ray revealed no injury. He was returned to the police station where his condition deteriorated around dawn Tuesday, the police said, and was taken back to hospital, where he died about one hour later. The Iranian had intentionally slammed his head against the seat of the mini-bus that was taking him to jail, the police said adding that an autopsy has been ordered.

## Algerian prime minister seeks aid

PARIS (AFP) — Algerian Prime minister Mokdad Sifi arrived here on Wednesday seeking economic support from the former colonial power France for his country torn by a war with Islamic fundamentalists. Sifi, on his first visit abroad since he was appointed last April 11, was accompanied by Finance Minister Ahmed Benboula and other senior officials. He was to meet President Francois Mitterrand later Wednesday and Foreign Minister Alain Juppe on Thursday. France was instrumental three weeks ago in arranging the rescheduling of Algeria's \$26 billion foreign debts, and considers that economic support is vital to prevent the country from sliding further into chaos. Paris will tell Mr. Sifi his military-backed government must engage in dialogue with all parties that reject terrorism, including Islamic moderates, French officials said.

## Growing threat from hi-tech Jew-haters'

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Anti-Semitic groups are exploiting state-of-the-art communications to pose a growing international threat, according to a report previewed Wednesday by Tel Aviv University. "Utilising the latest communications techniques, racist groups in Western Europe achieved high levels of cooperation... finance, training, legal advice, translation and distribution of hate literature, and the organisation of demonstrations and international congresses," the report found. "These groups have adopted the most modern communications methods such as electronic mail networks, video games and direct mail. There is also exploitation of computer software technology by creating diskette containing detailed instructions for preparing bombs." Dima Porat, director of the study, said: "We view with great concern the international links of extremist groups, calling on law enforcement agencies to act against the spread of hatred across borders."



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Wednesday hands the sword of honour to a graduate officer from Muta University

## Regent urges army graduates to uphold spirit of Arab revolt

MUTA (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Wednesday urged graduates from the military wing of Muta University to follow on the footsteps of the forebears of the standards of the Great Arab Revolt.

"As you now join the military institution you will be bearing the honour and the duties of those who had served this country before and defended its soil since the outbreak of the Great Arab Revolt and during the various conflicts in which Jordan offered sacrifices in defence of the homeland," the Regent said.

"You are expected to be loyal to your homeland and to following your predecessors in upholding our principled stand," Prince Hassan told the graduates.

He urged them to remain steadfast behind their leadership and back the King's endeavours in bolstering national unity and defending the national soil.

Referring to the situation in the Middle East, Crown Prince Hassan said that the whole region was now going through rapid and varied changes and witnessing crucial events and developments.

"These developments require us to be vigilant and strong enough to confront the challenges ahead and to deal with them objectively, wisely and with a clear vision," he said.

"Our position should be clear to the world at large and to those around us" and we should be ready for the various transformations that will eventually lead to what is being called the new world order, the Prince pointed out.

"It is our duty to adopt a clear position and to be able to contribute to shaping our future lives in a manner that would be in conformity with our principles and national interests," Prince Hassan added.

Our position should be based on a concept of clear vision and scientific knowledge and not on the basis of wishful thinking nor should we merely accept what is being decided for us by the others, the Regent said.

The Regent said that our domestic front should be united and informed of the developments on the international scene so that the nation's potentials and capabilities can be fused together and to confront the domestic as well as the external challenges.

It should be emphasised that the basic challenge facing the country at the moment is the will to change, a decision that should be taken by the people and their leadership together at the appropriate moment.

He said that the desired change was needed by Jordan to enable it to move on towards safeguarding the country's national interests.

At the end of the ceremony, which was attended by acting Prime Minister Thoqan Hindawi and other officials and high ranking army officers, the Regent distributed diplomas and prizes to the graduates.

## Hizbullah attacks Israel in S. Lebanon

MARJAYOUN, Lebanon (AP) — Hizbullah fighters attacked an Israeli patrol with rockets, machine guns and mortars overnight in south Lebanon but caused no casualties, a pro-Israeli radio reported on Wednesday.

More than 30 Hizbullah guerrillas died in a raid on June 2.

"Hizbullah is of course trying to react and we will do our best to prevent attacks knowing that the struggle will

go on," Gen. Barak said. Israeli warplanes blasted Hizbullah positions Monday and Tuesday and guerrillas fired back Katyusha rockets.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin sought Tuesday to play down the fighting a day after an Israeli soldier died and four others were wounded.

A Lebanese woman has been killed and four other civilians wounded in the recent violence.

The patrol was heading for Taliqan, an outpost controlled by Israel's proxy South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia on the outskirts of the western sector of the "security zone" controlled by Israel along the two countries' border since 1985, the radio said.

Guerillas fired Sagger rockets, machine guns and volleys of 120 mm and 81 mm mortars causing no casualties among the soldiers, Sawt Al Jumh (Voice of the South) radio reported.

Israeli soldiers and SLA militiamen retaliated by pounding villages facing Taliqan, the radio added.

The Hizbullah has recently taken a series of very hard blows and lost dozens of fighters while numerous others had been wounded and we

will continue to act," Gen. Barak told Israel radio.

He recalled Israel's kidnapping on May 21 of Mustapha Dirani, a Lebanese Muslim leader and air raids which have followed.

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Guerillas fired Sagger rockets, machine guns and volleys of 120 mm and 81 mm mortars causing no casualties among the soldiers, Sawt Al Jumh (Voice of the South) radio reported.

Israeli soldiers and SLA militiamen retaliated by pounding villages facing Taliqan, the radio added.

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